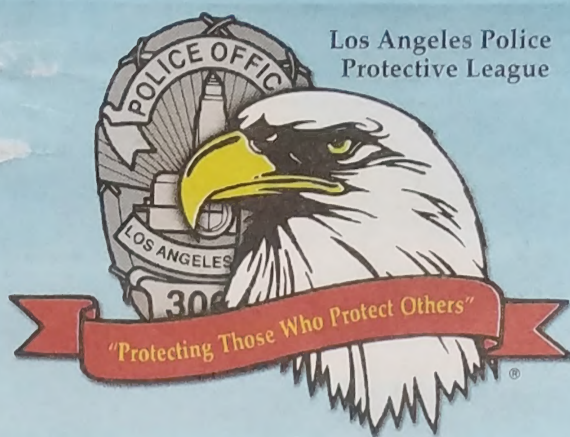


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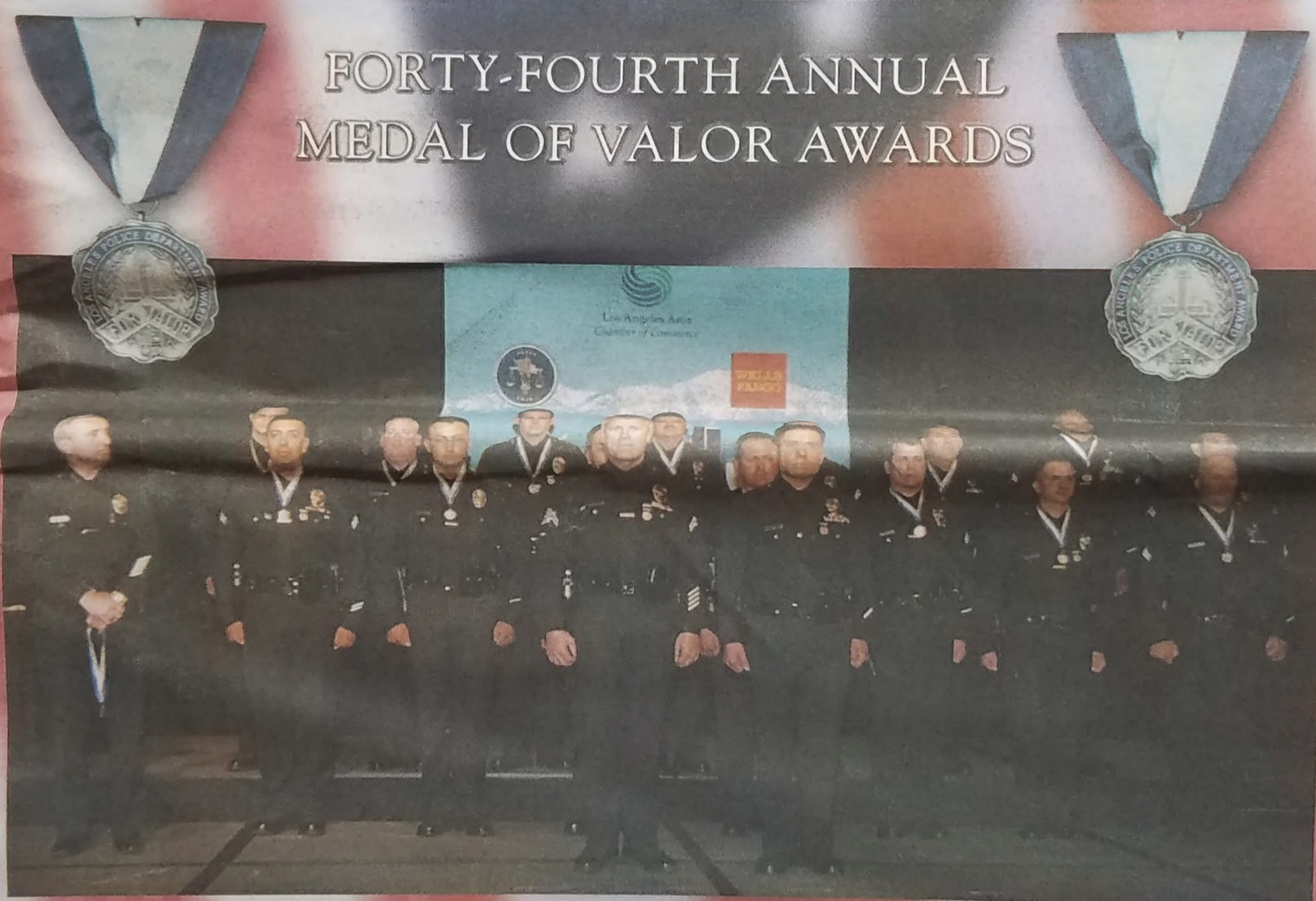


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ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Bob Baker, President

Maybe it's becoming a tradition at the League or maybe it's by virtue of the fact that the year is coming to a close and most people use this time to reflect, but I'd like to take the opportunity to both look back at 2003 and also look ahead to what next year brings. As always, the past year has been very busy for the LAPPL, filled with numerous challenges, as well as numerous opportunities. Since 12 months is a substantial time to look back on, I thought I'd highlight a few of the high points from last year:

Rank-and-File Contract

Whatever the economic environment, we have always maintained our commitment to providing our members with a good contract. Even faced with a tough year characterized by budget cuts at the federal, state and local level, the League and our team of negotiators were able to return a competitive contract for the rank and file, providing you with raises during the next three years.

So while we are proud to have returned a competitive contract for you this past summer, particularly in light of the challenges our state and city face, we know it will be important to protect this contract and continue to engage in the efforts we already do in an attempt to secure more funding for the Department.

Detectives' Reorganization

An issue I personally have spent a great deal of time on is the detectives' reorganization. As Chief Bratton has been looking to identify areas where he could improve the operations of the Department and ensure that our officers are empowered to do their jobs of pro-

tecting the community.

While the changes were well intentioned and meant to assist the detectives in better handling their caseloads, unfortunately the roll-out process was somewhat clumsy and the detectives were not involved in being able to give feedback and influence the progress of the implementation of the changes. That is the point at which the League stepped in to ensure the communication process was opened up and that the detectives' interests were addressed. We also took our concerns to Chief Bratton - who promptly became involved to better manage the reorganization process.

It goes without saying that our detectives work hard and do what they can with the restraints placed on them. By working closely with the Department, we have been able to smooth out some of the problems that had been identified by the detectives and implement a reorganization that better suited both the detectives and the community that they serve. The League will continue to address the reorganization problems and challenges as they develop into this next year.

New Leadership

Probably the biggest change we saw in 2003 was a full year under the new Chief, William Bratton. Chief Bratton has brought a fresh perspective to the LAPD since he joined us in October 2002. At a time when our Department was facing issues with high attrition, low morale and increasing crime, it was critical that we bring in new leadership to the department to help turn things around.

During the last year, we have observed Chief Bratton working to

make a better connection with the rank and file, to hear out their concerns and address them more quickly. He is present at roll calls and other officer events and makes a point to be visible with both the rank and file and the community.

Clearly Chief Bratton's style is direct and to the point - he can be tough, even critical. This has been an adjustment for some people - he definitely lets you know where you stand. However, when the League has had concerns or issues with decisions made at the Department, Chief Bratton has been amenable to hearing our side and taking our viewpoints into consideration.

Upcoming Issues

Although it's always tough to exactly anticipate what the next year brings - some of the issues we're seeing now were identified more than 18 months ago and were expected to be encountered much earlier - there are some things we're beginning to work on now that we know will take precedence in 2004.

Flat Badges

For the last several years, the League has been working on a proposal to obtain flat badges for all officers to be able to carry in their wallets.

This proposal has been approved by the Department and is now before the Police Commission.

Emergency Response Vehicles

For officers who don't live in the City of Los Angeles, it's important for them to be able to have the option to take their cars home with them, so that they may respond more quickly to emergencies if their responsibilities dictate as such. However, up until now, there have been limits on how far officers can take their

cars.

The League has put forth a proposal to the Department that officers be allowed to take emergency response vehicles up to 60 miles past the Los Angeles County line, in order to improve departmental responses. The concept has been approved by the Department and the proposal is expected to receive final approval from the Police Commission soon.

Consent Decree

The newest issue related to the implementation of the Consent Decree involves financial disclosures for officers. At the most basic level, the Consent Decree may require officers to provide access to not only financial/investment information on themselves, but also on their spouses/significant others. The League objects to this practice and is currently examining the issue so that we may evaluate what we need to do to protect you against this intrusion on your personal matters. We will provide you with additional information as we have it.

Like I said, there is a lot already on the slate for next year, and we will continue our dialogue with Chief Bratton and the other members of the command staff to make sure the rank and file continues to be represented and changes are implemented in your favor.

Best Wishes for 2004

On behalf of the League, I'd like to wish everyone happy holidays and a safe and wonderful New Year. I hope 2004 brings good luck to everyone, and assure you that the League will continue to work on your behalf this year - as we do every year - to protect those who protect others.

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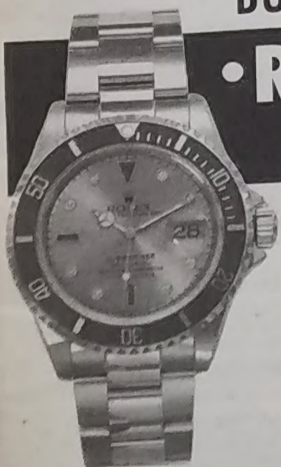
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MAKING LA SAFER

Mitzi Grasso, Vice President

Public Safety Funding

The facts are overwhelming – the LAPD is understaffed. On any given night, the public needs to know that there are only about 158 basic cars serving a city of 470 square miles. With about 9,300 officers, the LAPD has fewer officers per capita than New York, Chicago and Philadelphia. Shockingly, New York City has 128.8 officers per square mile, compared with 19.7 in Los Angeles. While New York City is much smaller geographically than LA, the fact remains that we are still under policed.

The catastrophic fires of October that burned across Southern California caused many people to suggest that Governor Schwarzenegger should shelve his plan to eliminate the car tax hike, a major source of revenue (*particularly for law enforcement*) for cities and counties. While the reversal of this multi-billion dollar loss in revenue for local governments is unlikely, it is clear that something needs to be done to secure public safety (*police & fire*) funding for the City of Los Angeles.

Two proposals are being discussed for the March ballot, which would raise taxes to pay for the expansion of our public safety resources. One proposal being considered by the City Council would ask landowners to pay \$100 a year for the average 1,500-square-foot home. Another by Sheriff Lee Baca would add another one-half-cent sales tax hike for public safety. However, the ballot may be crowded with funding requests. For example, the Los Angeles Unified

School District also wants voters to approve a \$3.8 billion bond to pay for new campuses and modernize existing facilities.

The facts are clear; something needs to be done to put more officers on the streets, but we must be careful of what we ask the voters to approve. Only a few months ago, we learned from exit polls, that part of the reason Californians recalled the Governor was due in part to a mistrust of government and because voters felt overtaxed. While a big part of community policing is about preventing crime, we must educate the public that a crime prevented is better than apprehending a criminal who has already inflicted harm on someone else. And to achieve this, we need funding for additional officers and crime-prevention programs – we must sell the voters on the urgency of this need.

Davis Signs Labor Bill

In his final days in office, Governor Gray Davis signed legislation that helps law enforcement personnel. Davis approved SB 440, which mandates a system of binding arbitration for settlement of labor disputes by law enforcement officers and firefighters.

False Alarms Still A Problem

Last month, while the Los Angeles City Council asked the Police Commission to wait 60 days before implementing its new “two strikes” burglar alarm policy, false alarms continued to be a

continued on page 14

EDITORIAL POLICY

- Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.
- No responsibility is assumed for unsolicited material.
- Letters or articles submitted shall be limited to 350 words and must be accompanied by writer's name but may be reprinted without name or address at writer's request.
- Freedom of expression is recognized within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space.
- The Board of Directors reserve the right to edit submissions and/or include Editor's Notes to any submitted materials.
- Deadline for submissions to the Thin Blue Line is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

NOTICE: The LAPPL is affiliated with the following organizations on the national and state level.

- IUPA** International Union of Police Associations, A.F.L.-C.I.O., representing over 100,000 police officer members in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Alaska and the continental U.S. in 580 locals.
- NAPO** National Association of Police Organizations representing nearly 220,000 police officer members in 4,000 police associations nationwide.
- CCLEA** California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations representing 28 California police officer associations.
- SCALE** Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement representing 10 police officer associations.
- BIG 11** An informal association of the 11 largest sworn law enforcement associations in the State of California.
- BIG 50** An informal association of the 50 largest law enforcement associations in the United States.

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POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE PROCESS

Ted Hunt, Secretary

The Los Angeles Police Protective League is an organization with a specific mission. In order to understand what we do politically and why we do it, it is essential to understand our mission. The overarching mission the League is to improve police services and improve the protection to the people of City of Los Angeles by attracting and retaining the best police officers.

The best officers are attracted and retained by ensuring excellent salaries, benefits and working conditions. The Police Protective League has a stellar record of consistently pursuing our mission.

The battle field for salaries, benefits and working conditions is the political environment. It is through political machinations that we got improved pensions, DROP, nine years of raises, two more vacations days, and so on. Politics is also the environment where the top administrators of the Department are appointed.

Politics is all about relationships. We support the people who support our issues and we oppose those who oppose our issues. No one on our Political Action team – the members who make the political decisions – cares about which party a candidate belongs to. The Political Action team does care about our issues.

Some League members have mischaracterized of the League's endorsement's process. In fact one guy recently said he thought the League betrays him when we endorse Democrats.

Fact is, the largest block of voters in California are Democrats. The vast majority of voters in the City of Los Angeles are Democrats. Nearly two-thirds of all seats in the Assembly and the Senate are safe Democrat seats. The redistricting maps making it so were agreed to by the Republicans.

If we expect to have influence in shaping government policies about policing, we must deal with Democrats. If we bury our head in the sand and pre-

tend that the Democrats would not going to do anything that would harm us, then we would deserve the harm they would do to us.

Some have insinuated that the League only endorses Democrats. That too is blatantly false. We have a long history of endorsing Republicans for local and major offices.

In 1987, then Vice President George Bush (R) was honored at a League Picnic where he kicked off the California Bush for President Campaign.

In 1993, the League was absolutely instrumental and critical to election of Mayor Richard Riordan (R) over a Democrat. We endorsed him for reelection four years later.

In 1996, the League endorsed California's native son, Governor Pete Wilson (R) in his bid for the White House. Then we sponsored a major event for Governor Wilson at the Police Academy as he ended his campaign kick-off tour of the United States.

In the City of Los Angeles, there are two Republican members of the City Council. We endorsed both of them and made significant independent expenditures to both campaigns.

We have endorsed other Republican candidates for election to City Council and made significant independent expenditures, but unfortunately those candidates weren't successful.

There is only one Los Angeles based seat in the Assembly where a Republican can win. We have consistently endorsed the GOP candidate. We have endorsed Assemblyman Keith Richman (R) for reelection and before him we had a long and excellent friendship with the Honorable Paula Boland who held that Assembly seat before Dr. Richman.

Statewide, our ratio of endorsements is consistent with every other police organization including the supposed GOP friendly chief's and sheriff's association.

If you went to the GOP Headquarters in Burbank, on the wall of sponsoring

plaques, you will see one from the Los Angeles Police Protective League. I know, because I put it there. In addition, the League is a member of the Los Angeles Lincoln Clubs – an organization of the most active Republicans.

One member bemoaned that members are never consulted before endorsements are made. That is simply untrue. For example, in 1997, the League sent a ballot to every member's home asking for a confirmation vote to endorse Gray Davis for Governor. The vote was 67 percent. The process was repeated in 2002 with a majority vote to endorse Davis.

That process was conducted by the League's Election Committee which is comprised of Delegates, the people from local divisions.

In sum, where there are Republicans who can win and who are in support of our issues we are always there for them with endorsements and contributions.

Training the PAC Members

The League's process for endorsement is very stable and it is conducted through the Political Action Committee which is comprised of regular officers from a myriad of LAPD assignments.

Each month, the PAC meets for an hour and openly discusses issues critical to the Department and membership. Sometimes we have guest speakers and sometimes we have a formal training session.

In addition, we regularly conduct formal training sessions which have included a trip to Sacramento where the PAC members took classes taught by lobbyists from both the D side and the R side. Then staff members from public safety forums explained their input into the process. Legislators from both parties spoke at the banquet. In other words, PAC

members got an up close look at how the legislative process work.

We have sent members of the PAC to seminars presented by Campaigns & Elections, a subsidiary of Congressional Quarterly. We have had field trips to see how other unions operate their political programs. We are planning a training day at City Hall.

The Endorsement Process

The endorsement process itself includes a background search of publicly available information on each candidate. PAC members review the candidates biography and related information. At the interview, a series of questions are asked of each candidate. There is a set of basic questions which are asked of each candidate. The questions are based on our mission, goals and objectives.

If a member of the PAC believes there is a need to inquire about issues specific to a candidate, members are free to ask those questions. And they are not shy about asking tough questions.

Finally, each member can ask a question that he or she may have. The PAC makes the decision on who to endorse, which is confirmed by the Board of Directors. Again, this process is member driven.

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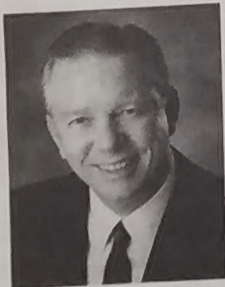
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I wish you a safe and happy holiday season. Enjoy your families and loved ones.

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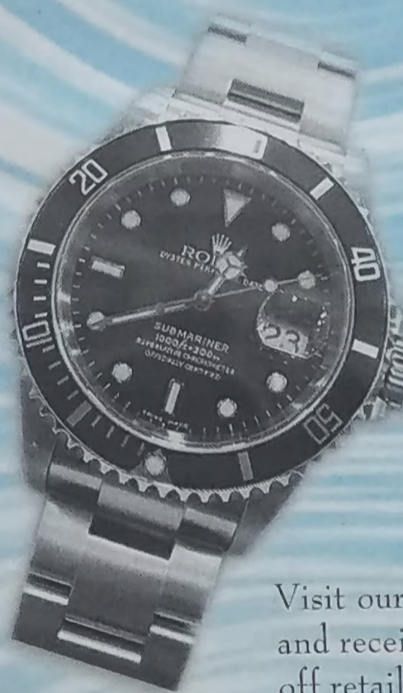
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PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS

Tim Sands, Treasurer

Replacement of Ballistic Vest

There have been numerous rumors floating around regarding the replacement of the Ultima vest from the Second Chances manufacturer. In this month's article, I will address the true facts concerning the replacement of the Ultima vest from Second Chance.

In September, the Department was notified by Second Chance that the Ultima vest breaks down prior to its warranty period. The Department notified the League and other city entities, and meetings were conducted immediately to address the officer safety issues. I attended the meetings. At the meetings I learned that LAPD has a high level of required specifications for its ballistic vests and only certain vests can meet these specifications. I was informed that the Ultima vest was made out of a material called Zylon, which, over a short period of time, was shown to break down. The Zylon material is the reason the Ultima vest is thinner and lighter than most vests. Normally, vests are made of Kevlar or a combination of Kevlar and other ballistic materials. Second Chance Company is the manufacturer of the Ultima vest. Their first proposition was to add an additional panel to the Ultima vest to bring it up to specifications. This was not acceptable. Second Chance agreed to replace all Ultima vests with the Monarch vest, which is a field tested vest made of Kevlar. The Monarch is slightly thicker and heavier than the Ultima vest. However, it doesn't break down prior to its warranty period and does meet the LAPD specifications. When the Department started issuing vests years back, the vest that was given to officers was a heavier, thicker vest than the Monarch and Ultima. The Department proposed to numerous officers that they could trade in the Department issue vest for an Ultima and pay the difference in cost, which was somewhere

around \$300-\$400. Many officers took this proposition and paid for the difference for the Ultima. Now it has been learned that the Ultima vest is a flawed product and Second Chance is replacing the vest with a less expensive product (Monarch vest) without reimbursing the officers who paid the difference for the Ultima vest with their own money. This, again, is not acceptable. Another meeting was called, which I attended and this issue was discussed. The Department is currently compiling data of all officers who paid extra for the Ultima vest. With this data, the League is pursuing to have the City reimburse the officers who paid extra for the Ultima. After the officers are paid, the City would then litigate with Second Chance to get the money back. At the writing of this article, this has not been finalized or agreed to. However, the League is using every means possible to achieve this goal. The Department is currently exchanging all Ultima vests with the Monarch. I have been told through phone calls and email that some officers are not exchanging the Ultima vest due to the fact they believe they are giving up their right to sue Second Chance if they accept the Monarch vest. This is incorrect! The Ultima vest is a flawed product and possibly will not stop the bullets it is supposed to stop. This is an officer safety issue, and the Board of Directors and I highly encourage every officer to turn in the Ultima vest for the Monarch. As a side note, the Monarch vest has been sized to the same dimensions as the Ultima vest that was previously issued and it fits into the same carrier as the Ultima. Some officers' carriers would not properly fit the Monarch—possibly due to shrinking, etc. Supply Division has new carriers for those officers when they turn in their vest.

Following is a list of questions and answers for officers. Should you have further concerns, you can email me at timsands@lappl.org.

ULTIMA VEST EXCHANGE

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why is my Ultima vest being exchanged?

A. In September, the Department received information from Second Chance that their Ultima line of body armor was not performing to expectations. According to the manufacturer, the Zylon ballistic material was wearing faster than expected and there was a possibility of ballistic failure.

Q. I have heard that Second Chance offered another remedy that did not involve turning in my Ultima vest. Why don't we do that instead?

A. Second Chance's original offer to all wearers of the Ultima vest was to add additional ballistic panels to the front and back Zylon panels or to sell an "upgraded" Monarch vest at additional cost. Neither of these remedies was acceptable to the Department. The additional panels, which Second Chance refers to as "performance packs," have not been tested for ballistic performance. In fact, the National Institute of Justice, a federal agency which tests body armor, has told the Department that they would not test or certify such a package containing a combination of different ballistic panels. Officers should not pay additional money for a replacement Monarch vest, which actually retails for less money than the Ultima line of body armor.

Q. I paid a lot of money to upgrade to an Ultima vest. Now I am getting a cheaper vest in exchange. I think I should get money back.

A. The Department agrees and has said so to Second Chance. So far (October 23, 2003), Second Chance has not agreed with our position. This may end up in litigation. The City Attorney has assisted the Department greatly in getting replacement vests to our officers from Second Chance quickly. The Office of the City Attorney stands ready to sue if necessary to make officers whole. This may take some time.

Q. Should I hold on to my Ultima vest until I get a refund from Second Chance?

A. The Department does not recommend it. The most important thing at this point is to get adequate ballistic protection around your body. Turn in your Ultima vest, wear your Monarch vest and the Department will deal with the money issues in due course.

Q. Is it true that the Los Angeles Police Protective League (LAPPL) is advising officers not to take the replacement vests?

A. No. The LAPPL has been involved in the solution to this issue from the beginning. They agree with the Department that the first priority is to get a good product to officers and have them wear it. The League will be involved with the Department in trying to get reimbursement for officers who paid extra for their Ultima vests.

Q. Why am I being asked to use my old vest carrier to hold the new Monarch panels? Is it true that

the new panels don't fit in the old carrier?

A. The manufacturer was able to get the vest to us much quicker if they did not have to replace the carriers as well. Because time was of the essence, the Department agreed to this condition. We have found that in most cases, the Monarch panels fit in the old carrier without a problem. In a small number of cases, the carriers have had to be replaced. Supply Section has a number of brand-new vest carriers for those officers who need them.

Q. Is it true that the Monarch replacement vests are a standard product? I've heard they only come in small, medium and large sizes.

A. The Monarch replacement vest is a premium quality product. It was the Department standard prior to 2003 when the Ultima became the standard. The Monarch is all-Aramid (Kevlar) and is covered in Gore-tex. The replacement vests are individually sized. Your replacement vest is the same size as your Ultima vest. That size is based on your measurements during your last vest fitting.

Q. Why can't I have a vest that is just as light and flexible as the Ultima? Was the Department trying to save money when they accepted this heavier Monarch?

A. The Ultima vest is light and flexible because of the underlying material it was made of, Zylon. Now we know that there may be problems with Zylon that could endanger officers' lives. There is no all-Kevlar product that is going to be as light and flexible as what officers have grown accustomed to with the Ultima vest. Your replacement vest is going to be heavier and thicker than the Ultima; there is no way around that. However, it is much more comfortable than body armor of just a few years ago. Most importantly, we know that the Monarch vests perform as expected. **PLEASE WEAR YOUR REPLACEMENT VEST.**

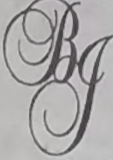
Q. I upgraded to an Ultima vest that offered Threat Level IIIA protection. What will I get as a replacement?

A. If you had a Level II Ultima vest you will get a Level II Monarch. If you upgraded to IIIA in the Ultima, you will get a Monarch that is likewise rated at IIIA.

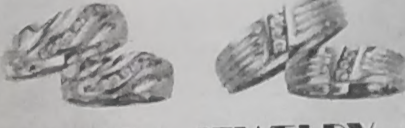
Q. Why didn't I get a replacement vest with everyone else in my Bureau?

A. If you recently transferred in to your current Bureau, your replacement vest may be coming in with your old Bureau. Officers in non-patrol assignments in September 2003 will get their replacement vests about three weeks after patrol officers. The Department had to prioritize the delivery of the replacement vests. The first priority was those officers receiving a field bonus. All the others should come in shortly thereafter.


I wish you all a safe and happy Holiday Season. Take care and be safe!




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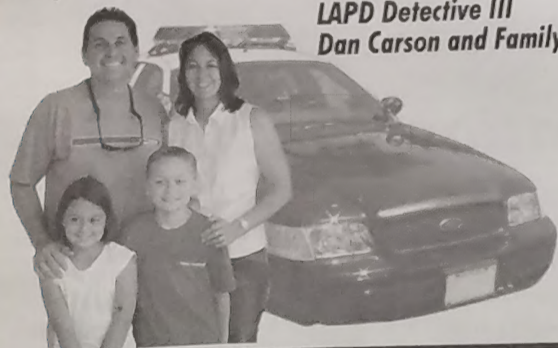
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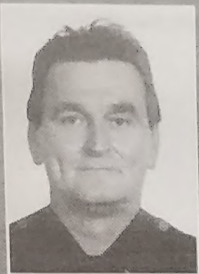
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WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND FIREARMS QUALIFICATION

Luther Lutz

Before I get into the topic of my article, I want to thank all of the officers that were involved in the investigation and handling of the two officer involved shootings in Rampart and Wilshire Area on November 1. Everyone involved in these investigations put in a lot of hours to ensure the mandates of the consent decree were met, the shootings were properly investigated, and the involved officers were provided with the support they needed in the aftermath of the shootings. So I would like to personally

thank all the officers that spent the long hours necessary protecting the crime scenes, the command staff that took the time to meet with the involved officers to ensure they were ok, the personnel from Robbery Homicide Division and the Critical Incident Unit for doing a superb job in their investigations, and the psychologist from Behavioral Science Services (BSS) for being there providing psychological support to the involved officers.

This week several officers called the

League about a Notice published by the Department regarding firearm qualification. The Notice, entitled Verification Of Employees With Permanent Medical Restrictions Precluding Firearm Qualification, dated October 8, 2003, stated Department records indicates there are 195 officers with permanent medical restrictions that preclude them from qualifying with a firearm. The Notice directed Commanding Officers to ensure officers in their command whose names were on the list actually have permanent medical restrictions that preclude them from complying with the Department's firearm qualification requirements. The Notice inferred that an officer's inability to meet the Department's firearm qualification requirements could have a negative impact on one's ability to continue carry a firearm, their duty assignment, or eligibility for promotion.

This is not the first time this type of Notice has been published by the Department. There was a similar Notice published in 1998. At that time, Department records reflected there were 422 officers with medical restrictions that precluded them from firearms qualification, of which 63 were permanently restricted from qualifying. Currently there are 433 officers with medical restrictions that preclude them from firearms qualification, of which 195 officers are supposedly permanently restricted from qualifying.

The main reason for the drastic

increase in the number of personnel that are supposedly permanently exempt from firearms qualification is the result of supervisors being overworked, which results in paperwork (Duty Certificates, PDAS 43 Forms) not being submitted to Medical Liaison Section (MLS) when a temporary medical condition is resolved. This results in temporary restrictions becoming permanent restrictions. Supervisors and the involved officers have to ensure that the necessary paperwork is submitted to MLS when a temporary medical condition is resolved so that it does not become a permanent medical restriction. Another reason for the increase in the number of medically exempt personnel is that there are some officers that do not like qualifying and they have convinced their supervisor they are medically exempt when they really are not exempt.

The League will monitor what the Department intends to do with the personnel that remain on the list after it is reviewed to ensure their interests are protected. The League understands the Department's concern regarding the liability of having officers assigned to field duties or carrying a firearm off duty when they have not qualified for years due to medical restrictions. However, the League will ensure that the rights of any officer impacted by any policy changes regarding assignment, promotion, or ability to carry a firearm are protected.

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LEADERS OF LAPD

Peter Repovich

As you know, the Police Commission has played an integral role in shaping the policy, structure and character of the LAPD. Since their creation in the 1920s, they have served not only as the governing body but also as the "Citizen's Voice" of the Department, and their influence and importance in determining how you get your jobs done cannot be overstated enough. It is for this reason that the LAPPL needs to build a strong relationship with the Commission and ensure that we remain a part of the dialogue when new policies are adopted or implemented. It should not be the "Citizen's Voice" alone that determines the direction of LAPD; the police officers who protect and serve these citizens should have their chance to speak, as well.

Fortunately, the LAPPL has always made it a priority to foster a good working relationship with the Police Commission, and the five members who make up its board. A prime example of this was our close association with former Commissioner Bert Boeckmann. A man who served as a calm voice during a chaotic time, Commissioner Boeckmann was a great ally to the LAPPL and was always willing to work with us to

ensure that both organizations' goals were being met. His tenure of the Board is a good example of what a successful collaboration can achieve.

Yet while Commissioner Boeckmann's service to the Commission has ended with his retirement, a new guard of sorts is at the helm of the Police Commission and we are continuing to work to establish and develop relationships with each of the board members.

With all of the recent changes in the Commission, some of you may not be as familiar with the new assignments as others. As a result, I'd like to use this month's column to introduce you to the new - as well as remind you of the familiar - faces of the Los Angeles Police Commission.

David Cunningham III, President

Recently elected as President of the Police Commission, David Cunningham was appointed to the Commission in August of 2001. During 2002, he was elected Vice President.

His tenure on the Commission has been marked by numerous key events at the police department. These developments include the implementation of

flexible work schedules at the LAPD, a change in leadership at the head of the Department, the revision of the burglar alarms and pursuit policies within the Department and the passage of a new contract for the LAPD rank and file.

Following in his father's footsteps of service to the City of Los Angeles, President Cunningham has committed two decades of his life to serving as both a public servant and attorney in Los Angeles. His election as President of the Los Angeles Police Commission is just the latest in a long record of achievements. Indeed, we are proud to have President Cunningham with us and look forward to a longstanding relationship with him similar to the one we have with Former President and current Commissioner Rick Caruso.

Alan Skobin, Vice President

Although Alan Skobin was appointed to the Commission and made Vice President just this past July, he has already begun staking out a leadership position by providing valuable insight on such issues as the reserve corps, false burglar alarms, the Glock issue and fighting for resources to give officers the tools and abilities necessary for protecting our streets.

Honored by the LAPPL for his appointment to the Police Commission at a reception in October, Commissioner Skobin brings more than 20 years of experience as a Reserve Deputy Sheriff and also a record of community and civic service that spans more than 30 years. His dual and in-depth knowledge of both law enforcement and the community are a great asset to the Commission.

Rick J. Caruso, Commissioner

As many of you are aware, Commissioner Rick Caruso is a three-year veteran of the Police Commission. During his two-year term as president of the Commission, he provided invaluable leadership, helping to enact numerous positive changes including the restoration of the senior lead officer community policing program and the creation of an independent commission to review the Department's response to the Rampart scandal.

Because of his unwavering commitment to the community and the LAPD, Commissioner Caruso received a Crystal Angel Award during the Police Foundation's Fourth Annual March on Crime Brunch hosted by actor Dennis Franz on October 12, 2003.

Rose Ochi, Commissioner

With a background as a lawyer and criminal justice executive on both the local and national level, Commissioner Rose Ochi is used to breaking down barriers and stereotypes. A list of her many groundbreaking roles in public service include being co-counsel of record in a landmark education reform case, *Serrano vs. Priest*, and being the first Asian American woman to serve at the Assistant Attorney General level.

Since she was appointed to the Commission in 2001, she has served one term as Vice President and remains an important voice on a variety of issues from crime and drug policy and police-

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LET'S ROLL

Paul Weber

Medal of Valor

On October 27, 2003, we honored the best of the best with our Department's highest award for bravery – the Medal of Valor. This award is given annually to officers whose courageous acts are above and beyond the call of duty. To be awarded the Medal of Valor, an officer would have performed an act displaying extreme courage while consciously facing imminent peril.

This standard is extremely difficult to meet because our officers consistently set a high standard for bravery each and every day. The Marine Corps War Memorial base has an inscription that was given in tribute by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz to the fighting men on Iwo Jima: **"Uncommon Valor was a Common Virtue."** Those words are also apt praise for the men and women of America's finest police department – The Los Angeles Police Department!

There are 17 officers who were awarded the Medal of Valor this year:

Officer Mark Aguilar
Officer Robert Ferrer
Officer Thomas Baker
Officer Thomas Kimrey
Officer Jude Bella
Officer Carlos Langarica

Officer Roy Ceja
Officer Jose Maldonado
Officer Alan Cieto
Officer Ivan Ramos
Officer Steven Conner
Officer Raul Soto
Officer Raymond Diaz
Officer Calixto Valdivia
Officer Guy Dobine
Officer Jesus Zaragoza
Officer Fernando Zuniga

Southern California Fires

These past few weeks saw numerous large fires throughout southern California. Many people, including our members, were affected by this disaster. I have included some information that may help you.

Southern California Fires: Important Numbers and Information

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Fireman's Fund	(888) 347-3428
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Mercury Insurance	(888) 313-6372
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Happy Holidays

As the holiday season fast approaches and the feelings of love and joy fill the air, please remember officer safety. Many officers are hurt and killed around the holidays by various causes. Remember, we cannot let our guard down, even

when we are celebrating these special holidays. Give your families the best gift they could ever receive – your safe return at EOW!

Year End

As the New Year approaches, it is critical to remember those who make life worth living (family and friends) and those with whom you spend so much time. We don't often take the time to enjoy the special moments because we are so busy. We need 48-hour days to catch up, yet we only have 24 hours.

I am thankful to my wife for her love and support, which has been a foundation in my life. She has been a great wife and mother to our seven children. The reason I can be successful at anything is due to her willing support. The holidays would be incomplete without my children and the unfettered love they pour out on me.

As any Director would tell you, the League's staff makes or breaks you. We have some of the best people working here at the League. They are the consistency in a place almost always in flux. Our office manager, Lisa Burrola, has been one of those constants at the League. She keeps the staff focused and working toward our goals. Dixie McDonald, Camille Nelson, and Helen McVay are all dedicated people with 20+ years of experience at the League and worth their weight in gold!

The next time you call the League, remember to thank these hard-working people who work behind the scenes to make your lives better!

Happy holidays and be safe!

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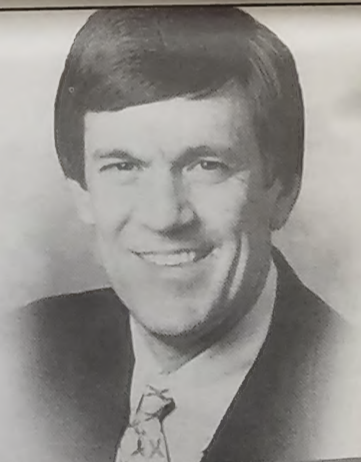
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A Message From Chief Bratton

by Chief William Bratton

This is the time of year when our thoughts turn to family, a time of looking back and assessing the past year. As I reflect on my first year as your Chief, I can say without any reservation, I truly did save the best for last. I feel privileged to be a part of the LAPD family.

Over the past 12 months, we've all been on a learning curve. I've had to learn the differences between West Coast and East Coast policing styles, and you've come to understand many of the ideas, initiatives and expectations I have for this organization. One of my primary missions was to refocus this organization to be more responsive to the crime problems in the city and more pro-active in our community policing and trust building efforts. That is what the re-engineering of the LAPD is all about. But first, I had to take the time to learn how this Department works as well as the people behind the badge and the civilians that are the glue that holds the Department together. What I've learned and have come to respect is the essence of this organization, the traditions and history that have shaped and influenced the Department, and the pride and esteem felt by each member of our LAPD family. That is what I like to call "the Real LAPD."

I have become keenly aware of just how difficult it is to be a cop in Los Angeles. The level of violence here, directed against the police, compared with other large cities, is disturbing. Gang members outnumber us considerably and have little respect for law enforcement. The volatile mixture of gangs, guns and narcotics is the source of significant amounts of the violence in this city, and the simple truth is, we don't have enough cops on the streets at any one time to make a significant, timely impact on that problem. My number one priority is to get more officers on the streets by increasing our numbers, but that will take time. There is a flip side to our limited ranks and it represents one of our greatest strengths.

Because we are so few, we have become very good in performing our duties, being efficient, skillful and tactically superior. What we lack in quantity, we have overcome in quality. To that end, the officers of the LAPD have become the best and most highly trained urban police force that I have ever encountered. You are truly second to none.

What I have also observed and support as "the Real LAPD," is the cohesiveness of this organization, and how officers depend on each other. Again, because there are so few, there is a special and unique bond between partners. I'm sure that comes from the dangers that patrol cops face out on the street. Your partner is your first-line back up and the trust required in that type of relationship often extends beyond the job. Your partners become your brothers and sisters both on and off the job.

Over the past year I have looked into how we investigate crimes, and the outstanding skills that are possessed within the organization by our detective workforce. The American image of the modern police detective was modeled after Los Angeles officers through the radio and television series *Dagnet*. But that image is merely a Hollywood version of the real LAPD. The strengths of our detectives have been overlooked and misdirected by the paper-driven bureaucratic process, primarily making the detective function that of a desk job. Through the reorganization and the establishment of the Detectives Bureau, my goal is to get more of our detectives back in the field, investigating crimes and making arrests. I am also aware that our critical investigative infrastructure is woefully insufficient. We are deficient in our DNA and forensic capabilities and other resources that are critical in our detectives' efforts to solve crimes. I will continue to fight for resources that will give detectives the tools they need to perform to the capacity

that will again elevate their status to national and worldwide prominence.

I have also come to appreciate the incredible work done in the community through the Senior Lead Officer program. Although small in number, they are the human face of this Department and the essential trust building link for the people of this City. The work of these 168 officers has helped to build a bridge, and the efforts have been paying off considerably. Community members are coming forward as never before to partner with us to reduce crime. SLOs help people have a greater comfort level with police. The community is more willing to reach out not only in moments of crisis or terror, but they can speak candidly during investigations and openly regarding quality of life issues. These partnerships can and have lead to some of our greatest successes in problem solving and crime prevention. Eventually, I would like every cop to have the time to interact with the community as Senior Lead Officers do. But until we have sufficient patrol staffing levels, the Senior Leads are the thin blue line of our outreach and community policing efforts.

The strengths of the organization I've mentioned best illustrate "the Real LAPD." As I move into my

second year as your Chief, I want to build on these strengths, on the incredible foundation that exists. With your outstanding tactical, investigative, and outreach abilities, coupled with your cohesive, cooperative, and self-reliant spirit, I have quite a story to tell about the men and women of this Department. And this story will be told to the people of Los Angeles, the decision-makers, as the Mayor, the Police Commission and I fight for the additional resources needed to make this the safest big city in America. Our goals for the Department are to get more cops, more training, the best technology available, and to keep you safe, so that when you leave your LAPD family at end-of-watch, you can return to your own families.

It has been my pleasure serving as your Chief for this past year, and I look forward to serving alongside you in 2004. As an organization, we have made tremendous strides in reducing crime and fear over the past 12 months, but doing better should never be enough for "the Real LAPD." Where we are is not where we need to be. With your commitment and expertise, I am confident that continued success awaits us in the New Year. During this holiday season I wish all the best to you and your families.

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A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

by Hank Hernandez, Attorney at Law

Beware of Workers' Comp Fraud

Last month one of our detectives had the unfortunate experience of having criminal charges filed against him as a result of allegations that he committed fraud while on IOD status. Today, workers' compensation, commonly referred to as IOD, remains a high volume, highly litigated and increasingly controversial and complex area of law.

During the last few months League representatives have met with several City officials for the purpose of improving the adjudication of benefits for injuries suffered by officers during the course and scope of employment. Our goal is the expeditious, unencumbered delivery of benefits to officers with legitimate injuries. On the other hand, little sympathy exists for officers who commit serious and willful misconduct by abusing their IOD status.

Officers need to be extremely aware

that only industrial injuries are covered by worker's compensation benefits. Industrial injuries are defined as those "arising out of and occurring in the course of employment as an LAPD officer. These two requirements are the cornerstone of entitlement to IOD benefits, and are more specifically stated in Labor Code sections 3600 and 3601. These two statutes together provide that when the conditions of compensation concur, workers' compensation benefits are the exclusive remedy of an injured officer. Generally, the conditions of compensation are:

- At the time of the injury, the officer is performing service growing out of and incidental to the employment and is acting within the course of the employment.
- The injury is proximately caused by the employment.
- The injury is not caused by the intoxication of the officer.

- The injury is not intentionally self-inflicted.
- The injured officer was not the initial physical aggressor in an altercation.
- The injury was not caused by the commission of a felony of which the officer has been convicted.
- The injury did not arise from participation in any off-duty recreational, social or athletic activity, except where the activity is a reasonably expected part of the employment.
- The claim of injury is filed before termination with certain exceptions.

We remind all officers that making a knowingly false statement to obtain IOD benefits is a felony. Injured officers are barred from receiving or keeping any compensation owed as a result of such statements. Most criminal fraud and administrative misconduct cases in the LAPD have involved injured officers. The number of fraud investigations being conducted by the Department's Benefit Abuse Team and Internal Affairs is increasing. We also suspect that unless injured officers take a few precautionary measures, as suggested below, the number of arrests, prosecutions and convictions for fraud will dramatically increase also.

As things stand now, injured officers should be precautionary by being aware that the filing of an IOD claim for benefits will require an investigation by the

Department and by the City's third party administrator, Cambridge. There may be depositions of the injured officer under oath, witnesses and discovery. Additional medical, employment, or other records pertaining to the injury officer may be obtained and reviewed by City's representatives. In appropriate cases, the Department and/or Cambridge will employ investigators to monitor an injured officer under surveillance. Lastly, injured officers are reminded that a successful prosecution for fraud will require clear, affirmative misrepresentations, preferably under oath, not just vague memories or statements subject to interpretation. Injured officers who are unable to work because of an IOD injury need to follow the treating doctors recommendations and advice by not engaging in activities that may appear inconsistent with the medical advice. Stay in touch with your attorney, your supervisor, representative of Medical Liaison and/or Cambridge, and with your League Director. Common sense should guide your every day activities by posing the following question at all times: could I be doing some type of work at the station instead of being off IOD?

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and all your loved ones. Be safe.

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WARNING BELL

by Gary Ingemunson, Attorney at Law

"Never send to know for
whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee"

—John Donne

The Long Journey of Officer Shooter

Part 1—Waiting for the Walk-Through

Firing your service weapon in the line of duty is the short part of a long process that you will go through when you use deadly force. In this column in the October Blue Line, a fictitious officer-involved-shooting was described. Fictitious in the sense that the officer, who we will refer to hereafter as Officer Shooter, does not exist as a real person, but not fictitious in the sense that everything that will happen to Officer Shooter is based in reality. The situation is real and the process that Officer Shooter will go through is real.

This is the first in a series of articles that will follow Officer Shooter through the entire process that follows an officer-involved-shooting. The purpose of these articles is twofold. First, the first person narrative of Officer Shooter is designed to place you in Officer Shooter's shoes. To make you walk a mile in his moccasins. When, and if, you become an Officer Shooter, you will have some understanding of what is to come and that will help to dispel the unknown. It is the unknown that can be

terrifying. If you know of the challenges to come, you can face them with a clear eye. Second, perspectives of real people actually involved in the officer-involved-shooting process will be given and are designed to give you a feel for how other people view their role in this process. Others involved in the process will be interviewed and their reasons for doing what they do will be given. You may agree, or disagree, with their reasons, but, at least, you will know what others in the process are thinking and where they are coming from in their dealings with this always controversial subject.

These, then, are the goals of this series of articles, to open up the process to understanding and bring out in the light a procedure that has remained too long in the dark.

Officer Shooter Waiting at the Station with Sergeant Babysitter

I remember that it had started out as a traffic stop. What was the violation? Somehow I can't remember. Does it matter? As I approached the car, the suspect looked directly at me and then hit the gas and sped off. I ran back to my

unit, jumped in just ahead of my partner, and sped after him. My partner had just picked up the radio mike to put us in pursuit when I rounded a corner just in time to see the suspect crash into another vehicle in the intersection. I do not remember seeing the suspect exit the wreckage, but I have a clear mental picture of him running south between the houses. The next thing I remember is running after him. Did I go Code Six? Did my partner call an ambulance? I can't remember.

The foot pursuit was fast, but short. I remember mental images of the suspect scaling a fence. I remember how he hit the ground on the other side awkwardly. He seemed to be holding something in his waistband. I remember the feel of the cold steel of the fence on my hands as I go over. I remember the jar of my feet as I hit the ground. I remember the sound of heavy breathing. It was mine. I remember flashes of the suspect running down an alley way. I can remember the feel of my gun in my hand, but I have no memory of drawing it from my holster.

Then things really get confusing. I have strong memories in slow motion with parts missing. The suspect turned towards me with a strange expression on his face. His hand melded against his waist band. The flash of something shiny. The strangely muffled sound of shots. Slow motion impressions of the suspect falling. A strange out of body feeling. The shouts of my partner breaking through into my consciousness. Decock! Decock! A jumble of radio broadcasts. Other officers arriving

Handcuffing. The appearance of Sergeant Babysitter. The drive back to the station that seemed to last forever.

I have been in the Captain's office with Sergeant Babysitter for almost three hours. They say the shooting team is being called in to investigate at the scene. They say my representatives have been called and are en route.

I have gone through the shooting in my mind a thousand times. Every time I go through it, it seems different.

The phone rings. This is the Captain's office. Should I answer it? Sergeant Babysitter reaches over and picks it up so I don't have to make that decision at least. He hands the phone to me. "It's for you," he says, "League director."

I answer. I haven't paid much attention to the League. The voice on the phone identifies himself and his name sounds familiar, but I can't say that I recognize it. He asks me how I'm doing. He asks me if I need anything. He tells me to sit tight and not talk to anyone until the League representatives arrive to represent me. He tells me that he also is on the way and wants to know if my wife and child have been notified that I am all right. "We don't want them notified by the news," he says. He offers to make the call. I assure him that they are aware that I have not been injured. I have already made that call.

"Sit tight," he repeats, "we have experienced people coming to help you through this. You're not alone." I thank him and hang up. I didn't say it, but I feel very alone.

continued on page 16

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters To The Editor is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. **Letters must be limited to 350 words or less.** Letters over the limit will be returned to the writer for editing. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

Letters to the Editor,

Last Saturday as I pulled into the Academy parking lot, I noticed a banner hanging across the entrance that read "Latino Expo and Written Test." I also noticed quite a few people standing in line to, I assume, take a written test in an attempt to be hired by the police department. However, as I worked out in the weight room, I heard what sounded like a mariachi band playing up on the field and immediately wondered what that had to do with hiring qualified police officers. A short time later, a person began speaking over the P.A. system on the field, but I could not understand a word that was being said, because it was all in Spanish, and again I wondered

why all communications by the speaker were being done in Spanish. I thought I must have just missed the English portion and caught the Spanish portion by mistake. I decided to ask someone who was stuck there all day if any of the program was in English, and much to my surprise the answer was no. The whole expo was conducted in Spanish. Why in the world are we doing hiring expos in a foreign language? Maybe I missed something, but isn't the ability to speak English a requirement to come on this job? If they cannot speak the language, they have no business even thinking about getting hired, until they master the lingo. First we let illegals drive, and now this. Give me a break.

Sgt. Steve Gomez, #21953
Metropolitan Division/K9

Subject: Pen Pal

Hi. I am a serving police officer in England (Northumbria), which is the sixth largest in the country and covers the northeast of England. I have just started a degree course in Police Studies.

I have nine years service working, four years in uniform, two years on a community policing team, and the last three years as a detective. Due to the interest I have in LAPD and the requirements of my course in gathering information, particularly in different approaches to policing problems, I was

wondering if any officer would be interested in communicating with me via the Internet. I suspect an officer in a similar situation may find this beneficial.

Thanks for your help.

Gary Querry
19 Maling Park
South Hylton
Sunderland
SR4 0JB
Tyne & Wear
ENGLAND
Querry19@aol.com

Grasso continued from page 4

burden to patrol officers.

The facts remain the same – in the responses to the more than 100,000 alarms last year, only one arrest was made. The annual time consumed responding to false burglar alarms by LAPD officers uses up the equivalent of 41 officers' entire work years. Fifteen percent of officers' patrol time involves answering false alarms and 96 percent of the calls turn out to be false alarms. While some people will argue that responding to alarm calls is "part of what we do – part of a service we provide to the general public," the volume of false alarms takes precious response time away from handling real emergencies or crime prevention efforts.

This problem needs to be resolved soon so that security companies cannot use LAPD officers as their free patrol service. Sadly, there are many instances in which these companies' monitoring services are either outside of the city – or even the state – or they may not even employ their own patrol fleet.

High-tech Police Cars

A recent story by the Associated Press indicates that law enforcement may be on its way to getting high-tech police cars. Just one year after an initial prototype was unveiled, the University of

New Hampshire's first high-tech "Car 54" police cruiser recently hit the road for field-testing – and it appears to be successful.

This police car redesign effort is the first of its kind in the country and may help change the way we work while at the same time increasing officer safety and efficiency. The "Car 54" project is so-named because today's police cruisers operate with basically the same technology used by the cruisers in the popular 1950s television series, "Car 54, Where Are You?" As we know, most police vehicles are loaded with systems – radio, siren, lights, computer – each one independent of the others and each one operated by hand, using buttons and knobs on the dashboard.

The Car 54 Project introduces technology that integrates all of these systems – and lets officers use voice commands to operate them. A simple command will turn on lights, start the siren or call the RTO on the radio – all without having to remove either hand from the wheel. Car 54 also uses an integrated system to automate requests for routine information. The car has been provided to the New Hampshire State Police and a number of other police departments for testing and we will continue to watch as the lab works on future improvements.

END OF WATCH



NAME: Ronald W. Glaser #7058
RANK: Sergeant I
ASSIGNED TO: West Valley
BORN: July 6, 1931
APPT: May 16, 1953
RETIRED: May 20, 1978
DIED: September 30, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Francis Moutes #4956
RANK: Investigator II
ASSIGNED TO: Rampart
BORN: November 12, 1916
APPT: September 16, 1947
RETIRED: April 19, 1971
DIED: October 3, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Walter C. Nemetz #2449
RANK: Captain
ASSIGNED TO: Communications
BORN: June 1, 1918
APPT: July 10, 1941
RETIRED: May 14, 1963
DIED: October 9, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Robert O. Tucker #4104
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: West Valley
BORN: November 12, 1924
APPT: December 17, 1945
RETIRED: December 30, 1965
DIED: October 9, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Robert P. Zarate #5447
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: Valley
BORN: June 13, 1920
APPT: February 16, 1948
RETIRED: March 1, 1968
DIED: October 13, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: John C. Desmond #21517
RANK: Lieutenant II
ASSIGNED TO: Reserve Coordination Section
BORN: January 1, 1950
APPT: September 2, 1975
RETIRED: September 10, 2000
DIED: October 15, 2003

NAME: Bertram L. Jones #3725
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: Personnel Division
BORN: December 26, 1923
APPT: October 16, 1946
RETIRED: November 1, 1971
DIED: October 16, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: James R. Welsh #6628
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: North Hollywood
BORN: March 22, 1928
APPT: February 1, 1950
RETIRED: January 4, 1972
DIED: October 16, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Clark P. Dierx #13820
RANK: Police Officer II
ASSIGNED TO: West Valley
BORN: November 1, 1945
APPT: February 25, 1968
RETIRED: December 1, 1981
DIED: October 18, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Dennis L. Hansen #13845
RANK: Detective II
ASSIGNED TO: Northeast
BORN: February 6, 1947
APPT: February 25, 1968
RETIRED: September 26, 1998
DIED: October 18, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: Ian E. Hall #14708
RANK: Police Officer III
ASSIGNED TO: Narcotics
BORN: January 13, 1947
APPT: December 1, 1968
RETIRED: August 17, 1996
DIED: October 28, 2003

★ ★ ★

NAME: John M. Prendergast #6937
RANK: Lieutenant I
ASSIGNED TO: Central Traffic Division
BORN: November 3, 1925
APPT: April 16, 1952
RETIRED: June 7, 1982
DIED: November 1, 2003

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Repovich continued from page 9

community relations to race relations and civil rights.

Silvia Saucedo, Commissioner

Although Commissioner Silvia Saucedo is one of the youngest Commissioners appointed in the City of Los Angeles, she already has a long track record of community service including working for the Washington State Attorney General's Office as well as the Early Outreach Program, which focuses on empowering inner city students. She is also an Associate with the law firm Nosaman, Guthner, Knox & Elliott.

Appointed to the Police Commission

in 2001, she has made it her mission to ensure that the LAPD equally protects and serves every resident of the city of Los Angeles, regardless of race, gender, age, area of residence, economic or immigrant status.

Dan Koenig, Executive Director

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Dan Koenig as the Police Commission's new Executive Director. A 32-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department who retired at the rank of Commander, he is an extremely valuable resource to the Commission with his extensive, in-depth knowledge of all aspects of the Department. A brief review of his career indi-

cates his key roles with the Department: he was creator of the now internationally famous DARE Program, Commanding Officer of the Management Services Division and author of the Department's report from the Board of Inquiry into the Rampart Corruption Incident, among other notable contributions. With such an impressive and varied history, Dan is tailor-made for the job and will, no doubt, serve as successfully in this position as he has in all of his other roles within the Department.

As you can see, there is a diverse set of individuals who bring different backgrounds, experiences, talents and perspectives to the Police Commission, which serves to benefit both the rank and file and the community at-large. We

look forward to continuing to develop our relationships with the members of the Police Commission, and working to educate them on the concerns of the rank and file and ensure that the progress with public safety in Los Angeles continues.

Holiday Wishes

I'd like to wish the members of LAPPL and our friends and supporters within the community a wonderful and safe holiday season. The year 2003 presents many more opportunities and challenges for all of us, and we will continue to work together to achieve our goals. Happy holidays and best wishes for the new year!

Ingemunson continued from page 13

Perspective of a League Director on Roll Out Duty

It is hard to imagine how League Director Sergeant Paul Weber could be more qualified to be a roll out director. Paul has twenty years on the job and ten of those years as a sergeant. He has functioned as a defense representative since 1991 and in 1999 he became the Assistant Officer in Charge of the Officer Representation Section. He has been to hundreds of roll outs representing officers. In 2001, he was elected to the League Board of Directors. His duties as a roll out director are now

somewhat different, but the background is a major help in accomplishing the roll out director's duties.

The League directors alternate week-long periods for being on call for after hours assistance to meet the needs of the membership. Directors roll out on all hits and, frequently, on other uses of force.

Paul says that he will never get used to the Command Post call in the middle of the night. "There is always that initial lump in the throat when that phone rings. I have been called in before to scenes where an officer has been killed or seriously injured and had to try and comfort grieving partners and loved

ones. I have learned to cut into the dry notification speech to find out if the officers are OK. Once that has been verified, I can get down to business."


The League director is in charge of getting the roll out attorneys notified. He, or she, also checks to make sure that the employee reps are rolling. Paul usually handles this on the cell phone as he is rolling toward the involved division. He is also planning where he can be of the most use. Should he respond to the scene, or to the station? He tries to contact the involved officers over the phone to assure them that the League will be there to assist them.


Once at the scene, he ensures that the

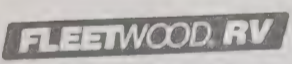
representatives have arrived. He then checks in with the officers to see how they are doing. If they need any assistance, he arranges for it to happen. Paul will go out to the scene of the incident to show League support for the officer, but will not participate in the actual walk-through. While the walk-through is in progress, he will be checking the needs of the other League members assigned to hold down the perimeter, or any of the other hundred jobs that need to be done at an OIS.

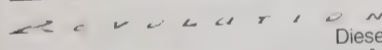
Officer-involved-shooting investigations often take twelve hours, or more.


continued on page 17


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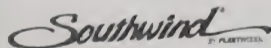
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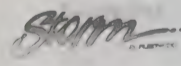
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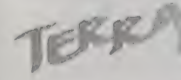
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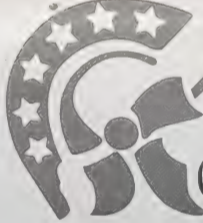
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to complete. As can be imagined, people get hungry. Paul will make sure that the officers involved in the investigation, as well as the officers holding down the field positions, are fed. If there are any other issues needing attention, Paul knows how to tap into any of the League resources that he may need.

"The League members need to know that we are there for them," Paul says, "and the Department brass and any other onlookers also need to know that we are standing by our members in their hour of trial. The rules may temporarily separate them from their fellow officers pending the investigation, but, separated or not, they are not alone. The League is here and I am its representative. I take that job seriously."

The League Representative Arrives

The door opens. A man introduces himself as my League representative. Sergeant Babysitter is asked to leave. Finally, the process is going to start.

The League representative and I talk for twenty minutes. He explains the process that I am going to go through. The RHD interview. The walk-through. The CIID interview. The Captain's walk-through. The Use of Force Board Hearing. I am starting to understand that tonight is only the bare beginning.

He tells me the issues will be the drawing of my weapon, the tactics, and the use of force itself. Will they be within Department policy, or not, is the

administrative question. He tells me of the three possible recommendations in each of the areas. No action. Training. Administrative disapproval.

He tells me that the District Attorney will review the shooting for possible criminal action against me and that there is a high probability that I and the Department will be sued in civil court. He said the City Attorney will probably represent me, if that happens.

He is very concerned that I be accurate. I tell him that I have every intention of being accurate, even though I am thinking to myself that I am still not completely sure what did happen.

Perspective of the Representative

The League roll out program has been around for officer-involved-shooting hits for over seven years. The roll out program for non-hits for two years. This has resulted in a lot of experience for the roll out representatives. Most of the roll out attorneys are retired LAPD officers and have been familiar with officer-involved-shootings for years. The roll out employee representatives are active LAPD members with similar experience.

The first thing the representative wishes to communicate to the shooting officer is that there is someone in his, or her, corner. Someone familiar with the process and capable of giving reliable guidance as the process unfolds. Someone who will be vigilant about guarding their rights and knowledgeable about the issues. This is best communicated to the

officer by first explaining in detail what is going to happen. Taking the mystery out of the process goes a long way toward alleviating the officer's worry. Then, the officer should be assured that the representative will be standing with him, or her, side by side for the rest of the evening to advise and answer any questions.

The second thing is to convey to the officer the need for absolute accuracy. This is not the time for dramatic "war stories." Save that for around the campfire during the next trip to the river. This is a time for court-like testimony. Just the facts. It is also important to realize that not every question need be answered. Sometimes the plain truth is that the officer does not know the answer. This is no place for assumptions. The sensory distortions in high stress incidents are real. An officer (especially a young officer) tends to feel somehow inadequate if he, or she, cannot answer a detective's question. It is hard to say "I don't know" or "I don't remember," but however hard that might be on the ego, an officer is obligated to tell the truth and an assumption, may or may not be the truth. There will be enough people in the review process willing and able to make any conflict in the statement a "lie" rather than a mistake. An officer is not expected to be an electronic witness machine, so don't try.

The third thing to convey to the officer is that the officer is being interviewed as to his, or her, own observations, not the observations of others. In other words, tell YOUR story. Let the

other officers tell theirs. "We" didn't see anything. "I" either saw, or didn't see, something.

Last, the officer should realize that this is serious and everything should be done by the numbers. It is impossible to predict how an officer-involved-shooting investigation will turn out. Assume the worst and hope for the best is good advice.

Throughout the briefing process an assessment is going on by the representative. How is the officer handling this? Is he impaired by overwhelming emotions or lack of sleep? If so, the representative may call in a psychiatrist for evaluation, or otherwise try to rectify the situation in the interests of an accurate interview. The representative knows that the officer is going to be living with the words on the interview tape for a long time.

Officer Shooter begins the Journey

Sergeant Babysitter is back in the room with me and another half hour has gone by. Suddenly there is a knock at the door. Sergeant Babysitter, who is just as tired as I am, wearily gets up and opens it. Two suits are standing outside. Not neat, pressed administrative type suits, but rumpled, used suits that have seen better days. "RHD," one of them announces. "We need to talk to you."

To Be Continued...

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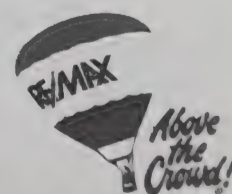
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POLITICAL FRONTLINE



LAPPL LEGISLATIVE CORNER

by Timothy H. B. Yaryan - LAPPL Legislative Counsel and Advocate

2003 Year End Legislative Report

There were two monumental events in 2003, which overshadowed everything else—the budget and the recall—and both will have an enormously “profound” impact on the League as we go forward into an uncertain 2004.

While we enacted a “budget” in 2003, it was hardly a thing of beauty, held together by string, baling wire, and IOUs for the future. But it passed less than a month beyond the June 30th fiscal year deadline, and, for the most part, public safety was protected.

We succeeded in protecting VLF payments to local government, the loss of which would have potentially resulted in massive layoffs of League members. We also succeeded in protecting most of the COPS funding after the program was initially eliminated.

In addition, we were able to defeat a proposal to eliminate POBR reimbursement to local agencies. However, what is not addressed is the continuing “gap” between state revenues and expenditures, and the fact that we will again be facing a perilous budget situation in 2004.

If the budget captured the attention of the state, the recall captured the attention of the world. How the new governor will deal with the budget and with the majority party is one of the big questions that remains to be addressed, but the VLF will be “on the table” early, and we will be caught up once again in the

resulting political firestorms. Anything less than a tumultuous year will be a pleasant surprise.

Key 2003 Legislation Passed

There were a number of bills the League sponsored or actively supported that were signed into law, which will beneficially aid officers. Here is a list of some of the most notable:

AB187 (Runner, R., Antelope Valley) increases the penalty for either assault or battery of a member of the United States Armed Forces to imprisonment in the county jail for a year, or a fine of \$2,000 or both. Chapter 138, Statutes of 2003.

AB319 (Frommer, D., Los Feliz) prohibits a juvenile, or anyone up to 30 years of age who has been convicted of certain dangerous offenses, from possessing a loaded or concealed firearm or permitting a firearm to be brought into a vehicle. Violation of this law is a “wobler.” Chapter 490, Statutes of 2003.

AB359 (Koretz, D., West Hollywood) prohibits management from prohibiting off duty employment except pursuant to department rules or an MOU with the employees bargaining unit, and further provides that any denial of off duty employment must be given in writing to the officers with specific reasons therefore. This bill was sponsored by the League. Chapter 104, Statutes of 2003.

AB933 (Reyes, D., Fresno) corrects a problem which arose when Los Angeles Deputy David March was killed in the line of duty. Deputy March had a step-daughter who was refused benefits under current law. AB933 authorizes step children of law enforcement officers or firefighters, who are slain in the line of duty, to be eligible for the same benefits that all other surviving chil-

dren—natural or adopted—are currently eligible to receive. Chapter 840, Statutes of 2003.

AB1156 (Nunez, D., Los Angeles) specifies, among other things, that employees of a local employer organization may challenge a local rule or regulation as a violation of the Meyers Mil-lias Brown (MMB) Act. Chapter 215, Statutes of 2003.

AB1313 (Parra, D., Hanford) extends the sunset on “Megan’s Law” dealing with sexual predators, until 2007. Chapter 634, Statutes of 2003.

SB221 (Romero, D., Los Angeles) prohibits POST from adopting regulations or making a POST Certificate revocable except as currently provided by statute. This bill settles a decade long dispute as to whether POST could impose, by regulation, requirements to revoke a POST Basic Certificate for “moral turpitude.” SB221 was sponsored by the League. Chapter 297, Statutes of 2003.

SB440 (Burton, D., San Francisco) addresses the California Supreme Court’s concerns in the Riverside decision which struck down California’s binding arbitration law for police and firefighters. Specifically it provides that the employer (the City Council or Board of Supervisors) may reject an arbitrator’s decision by unanimous vote. Chapter 877, Statutes of 2003.

SB762 (Brulte, R. Rancho Cucamonga) clarifies Proposition 36 to specify that use of certain “date rape” drugs do not qualify for treatment for a non-violent drug possession offense. Chapter 155, Statutes of 2003.

Key Legislation Opposed

There were a number of bills which the League actively opposed that would

have been harmful to law enforcement or the public’s safety. Among the more prominent bills the League opposed were:

AB112 (Goldberg, D. Los Angeles) would have amended and weakened California’s “Three Strikes” law by requiring that the third felony conviction be “serious and violent.” The bill was held in the Assembly.

AB992 (Ridley Thomas, D. Los Angeles) would put a 10 cents per round tax on the sale of ammunition to fund trauma care. The bill was held in the Assembly.

AB1012 (Steinberg, D., Sacramento) would impede the ability of law enforcement to interrogate pupils on campus. The measure was sent to the Assembly Inactive File.

AB1077 (Wesson, D., Los Angeles) and the other Speaker’s Commission bills the League opposed were sent to the Senate Inactive File.

SB365 (Johnson, R., Irvine) would have secured Worker’s Comp “take-aways” from employees. SB365 as well as 25 other “takeaway” bills, which the League actively opposed, were all held in policy committee.

SBX15 (Senate Budget Committee) would have provided time credits to prisoners for signing up for education courses. The bill was vetoed.

Finally, I understand Governor Schwarzenegger will call a Special Session of the Legislature to deal with the VLF, Worker’s Compensation, SB60, and the budget or any or all of the preceding. We may as well get the fighting done early.

Stay tuned! The 2004 session promises to be a wild ride.

LOS ANGELES POLICE PROTECTIVE LEAGUE 2003-2004 STATE LEGISLATIVE “HOT LIST” FINAL REPORT

2003 – 2004 STATE BUDGET

ISSUE

COPS Funding

COPS Tech Grants 2002

VLF Funding

POBR

DESCRIPTION

Would reauthorize \$100 million state funding for “Cops on the Street”

Would authorize \$18 million state funding for purchases of police equipment and technology.*

Would eliminate \$4.2 billion in VLF reimbursements to cities and counties.**

Would suspend reimbursements for POBR**

*These budget appropriations were actively supported by the League.

**Actively opposed by the League.

STATUS

Approved

Defeated

Defeated

Defeated

ASSEMBLY BILLS

BILL	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION
AB 112	Goldberg	Would limit application of “Three Strikes.”
AB 140	Levine	Increases penalties for evading “police pursuits.”
AB 187	Runner Garcia	Protects members of Armed Forces from discrimination.
AB 319	Frommer	Prohibits juveniles convicted of serious crime from owning or possessing firearms.

LAPPL POSITION

Active Oppose

Active Support

Active Support

Active Support

STATUS BILL

Assembly Inactive File

Assembly Appropriations

Signed into Law Ch. 138,

Stats 2003

Signed into Law Ch. 490,

Stats 2003

2003-2004 State Legislative Hot List continued from page 18


AB 359	Koretz	Requires written notification and reason therefore to officers denied off duty employment.	Sponsored by LAPPL	Signed into Law Ch. 104, Stats 2003
AB 834	La Suer	Requires complaints shown to be unfounded, exonerated, or frivolous be removed from dept.'s files.		
AB 933	Reyes	Includes stepchild for special death benefits allowed for children of officers killed in line of duty.	Sponsored by LAPPL Active Support	Assembly Public Safety Signed into Law Ch. 840, Stats 2003
AB 960	La Suer	Establishes public safety officer – peer support privilege.	Sponsored by LAPPL	Senate Judiciary
AB 968	Correa	Creates Workers' Compensation bio-terrorism coverage.	Sponsored by LAPPL	Assembly Concurrence
AB 992	Ridley Thomas	Increases sales tax on sale of ammunition.	Active Oppose	Assembly Inactive File
AB 1077	Wesson	Expands ways for filing complaints against law enforcement officers.	Active Oppose	Sen. Inactive File
AB 1081	Maddox	Allows officers their own access to files when frivolous lawsuits are filed against them.	Active Support	Senate Public Safety
AB 1119	Wesson	Establishes "early warning system" for law enforcement officers.	Active Oppose	Sen. Inactive File
AB 1156	Nunez	Provides employee of local public agencies & employee orgs may challenge a rule of public agency as a violation of Meyers-Milias Brown Act.	Active Support	Signed into Law Ch. 215, Stats 2003
AB 1198	Dutton	Keeps POST information regarding personnel records confidential.	Active Support	Senate Public Safety
AB 1313	Parra	Extends "Megan's Law."	Active Support	Assembly Concurrence
AB 1324	Steinberg	Creates a workers' comp presumption for dependents of peace officers who contact blood-borne infectious disease.		
AB 1432	Firebaugh	Eliminates statutory double jeopardy concerning conviction by foreign government.	Active Support Active Support	Conference Committee Assembly Appropriations

SENATE BILLS

BILL	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION	LAPPL POSITION	STATUS BILL
SB 188	Cedillo	Equalizes membership of labor and management at POST.	Sponsored by LAPPL	Senate Public Safety
SB 221	Romero	Prohibits POST from adopting regulations, to make POST Certificate a revocable license.	Sponsored by LAPPL	Signed into Law Ch. 297, Stats 2003
SB 365	Johnson	Revises circumstances that establish workers' comp employer liability.	Active Oppose	Senate Labor & Indus. Relations
SB 366	Johnson	Changes proof requirements in cases of psychiatric injury under worker's comp.	Active Oppose	Senate Labor & Indus. Relations
SB 440	Burton	Reenacts binding arbitration for peace officers with changes to address Riverside case.	Active Support	Signed into Law Ch. 877, Stats 2003
SB 752	Alpert	Allows law enforcement to require submittal of fingerprints for database.	Amended to remove opposition	Signed into Law Ch. 467, Stats 2003
SBX 15	Senate Bdgt Comm.	Time credits awarded to prisoners performing full time education qualifying assignments.	Active Oppose	VETOED
SCA 1	Burton & McPherson	Amends the California Constitution relating to access of public information.	Active Oppose	Assembly Floor

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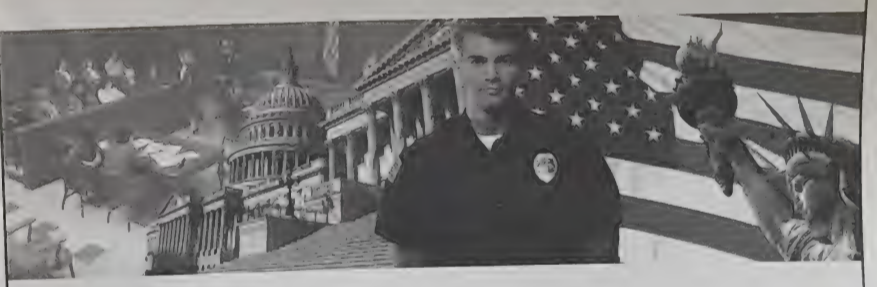
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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For Your Information is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

Two-Block Fox Squadron Honors LAPD Officers

On October 16, 2003, the Two-Block Fox Squadron of the Association of Naval Aviation honored four members of the Los Angeles Police Department who returned from active duty with the United States Marine Corps after their deployment to Iraq at a dinner meeting at the Odyssey restaurant in Granada Hills.

The four LAPD officers: Officer Ryan White, LAPD Devonshire Area, S/Sgt. USMCR; Officer Victor Lopez, LAPD Hollywood Area, Sgt. USMCR; Officer Isaac Moreno, LAPD Van Nuys Area, Sgt. USMCR; and Officer Vincent Deglinnocenti, LAPD Hollywood Area, HM2 USNR; were hosted by Two-Block Fox's Commanding Officer Pete Prieto, LAPD (Ret), D-III, a WWII Marine vet.

The four officers presented a program that told the story of how it was like to train while attached to the 2nd Battalion 23rd Marines for 30 days in Kuwait prior to their assault on Baghdad. They later taught police tactics to the newly formed Iraqi police force.



(L to R) HM2 Deglinnocenti, Sgt. Moreno, CO Prieto, LAPD (Ret), Sgt. Lopez and S/Sgt. White.

Officer White described what it was like fighting the Iraq regulars in Baghdad. It was there White was severely wounded by the enemy. Deglinnocenti came to White's aid and took care of White's wound so much to White's satisfaction that he dubbed Deglinnocenti "Doc," a fitting title earned in combat.

Lopez and Moreno were trained as

scout/snipers and used the latest in night vision equipment as well as the 50 cal sniper's rifle.

When Lopez's artillery unit was ambushed near a Baghdad building, Lopez helped to rescue the unit being attacked. As described by White, Lopez literally "cleaned out" the enemy in the building with his weapon. Lopez is

described as one of the best marksmen in the USMC. He was able to take down an enemy sniper at over 900 yards range.

Moreno described the reaction of the Iraqi people when the Americans rolled through the streets of Baghdad. The Iraqis cheered and hugged our servicemen in the streets contrary to the news media misinformation they put on television and newspapers.

The TBF members were impressed by these LAPD Officers/Reservists in what our forces accomplished in Iraq, and the humility they felt being in the presence of our members who represent veterans of WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

These brave servicemen who lived through the battle of Baghdad have now returned to fight the battle on the streets of Los Angeles.

Dave Steinbacher
LAPD (Ret)
Admin. Officer

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The National Park Service is looking for couples with one having a law enforcement background as a sworn police officer with at least 15 years of experience. The volunteer position as "Park Desk Officer" has openings for the 2004 season and beyond working a few days a week taking non-emergency type police reports, along with other duties as assigned. The spouse may have other duties. This program frees the Protection Division Ranger to handle the emergency calls for service.

The park service will provide an RV site up to 40 feet with full hook-ups and pay for your propane. There is no housing available. Required stay is ten to twelve weeks at Yosemite, Yellowstone and Grand Canyon at this time.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Ranger Glen Stanley, National Desk Office Coordinator for an application and/or information at glen_stanley@nps.gov or write to P.O. Box 577, Yosemite, CA 95389. Contact by phone, call the Traffic Management Office at (209) 372-0600, weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Pacific time.

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- Provide worldwide criminal investigative support to all U.S. Army elements
- Deploy on short notice in support of contingency operations worldwide
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What Qualifications Do I Need to Become a CID Special Agent

- Be 21 years of age; at least 2 years of military service
- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be an E-7 or below
- Be able to obtain and maintain a Top Secret clearance
- Have a GT score of 110 or higher
- Have 6 months military police or 1 year civilian police experience
- Have 60 semester hours of college credit
- Agree to a 36-month obligation upon completion of the CID Special Agent Course
- Have a physical profile of 111221 or higher, normal color vision

How Do I Apply?

For more information or to apply, call (323) 307-3437 or e-mail dale.rasmussen@usarc-emh2.army.mil.

OFFICER SAFETY

Google Search Engine

Hey partners. Hope all is well.

This bit of information was sent to me by a retired copper and an active LAPD sergeant at Rampart. It's good info, check it by following the instructions below. If your number is blocked, great. But if it's not, you may consider doing so.

Please continue to send any type of officer safety info you may come across. It is greatly appreciated by many cops, family and friends.

Take care and be safe.

From: Joel Espinoza

This can help or hurt cops, depending on who is using it, and why.

Place a phone number into Google, using hyphens only (for example, 213-555-1212) and enter it. If the number's not listed, nothing will happen.

If the number is listed, up will pop the name, city, and sometimes the exact address for the phone number entered. Then off the right of the return pops up the Mapquest link. When you click on Mapquest, up will pop the almost exact location of where the phone is placed. You'll then see a tab-link above the map for "aerial photo." Click on that and you'll have a satellite picture of the residence/business.

As an investigative tool, it's great! As an officer safety issue, it's very scary.

Any suspect seeing a cop dial his home, family or friends (or the business number to anyone they care about) can gain quite a lot of intel about the officer.

Be safe out there!

Sgt. Keith Moreland, Rampart

More...

Google has implemented a new feature wherein you can type someone's telephone number into the search bar and hit enter and then you will be given a map to their house from Mapquest. Go to www.google.com. Type the phone number in the search bar with dashes (i.e., 555-555-1212), dashes not spaces, very important, and hit enter. This will divulge the name and address. You will see a link option to the right for Mapquest (click on it), which will use the address to provide a map to the home or place of business.

If your number is listed there and you would like to block Google from divulging your private information, simply click on the telephone icon next to your phone number. It should remove your name, but it takes 48 hours.

If your number is unlisted, you might not be in there, but it is a good idea just to check.

More For Your Information on next page

The Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union Main Office, Academy, Jesse Brewer, and Manchester Branches will be closed on the following days:

- Wednesday and Thursday, December 24 and 25, in observance of Christmas holidays
- Thursday, January 1, 2004, in observance of New Years Day.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Educational Levels and Incarceration Populations

(Source: U.S. Department of Justice)

Education	Federal Prison	State Prison	Local Jail	Total Number Incarcerated
Some H.S. or less	26.5	39.7	46.5	41.3
GED	22.7	28.5	14.1	23.4
H.S. diploma	27.0	20.5	25.9	22.6
Some college	23.9	11.4	13.5	12.7

- Three-quarters of state prison inmates did not earn a high school diploma
- Less educated inmates are more likely to return to prison than prisoners with more education
- Why jail inmates dropped out of school:
 - 1 in 6 were convicted of a crime, sent to a correctional facility, or otherwise were involved in illegal activities
 - Over 1/3 quit school due to academic problems, behavior problems or lost interest
 - 40 percent left school to go to work, join the military or needed money
- Nine of ten state prisons offer educational programs
- Women in state prison are better educated than men in state prison
- Younger inmates less well educated than older inmates
- Inmates with military service better educated than those who have not served
- Forty-seven percent of drug offenders did not have a high school diploma or a GED

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BL01

LAPPL Honors New Police Commissioner, Alan Skobin, at Academy Reception



Newly appointed Police Commissioner Alan Skobin is honored by the Los Angeles Police Protective League at a reception at the Police Academy. League President Robert Baker presents Commissioner Skobin with an eagle statue as Director Ted Hunt looks on.



Police Foundation's Fourth Annual March on Crime



March on Crime event at the Police Academy draws League, Department and Community support. Police Commissioner Rick Caruso joins with Chief of Police William Bratton to welcome attendees. Commissioner Caruso received Crystal Angel Award in appreciation of his community involvement and service. Commissioner Caruso received Crystal Angel Award in appreciation of his community involvement and service.

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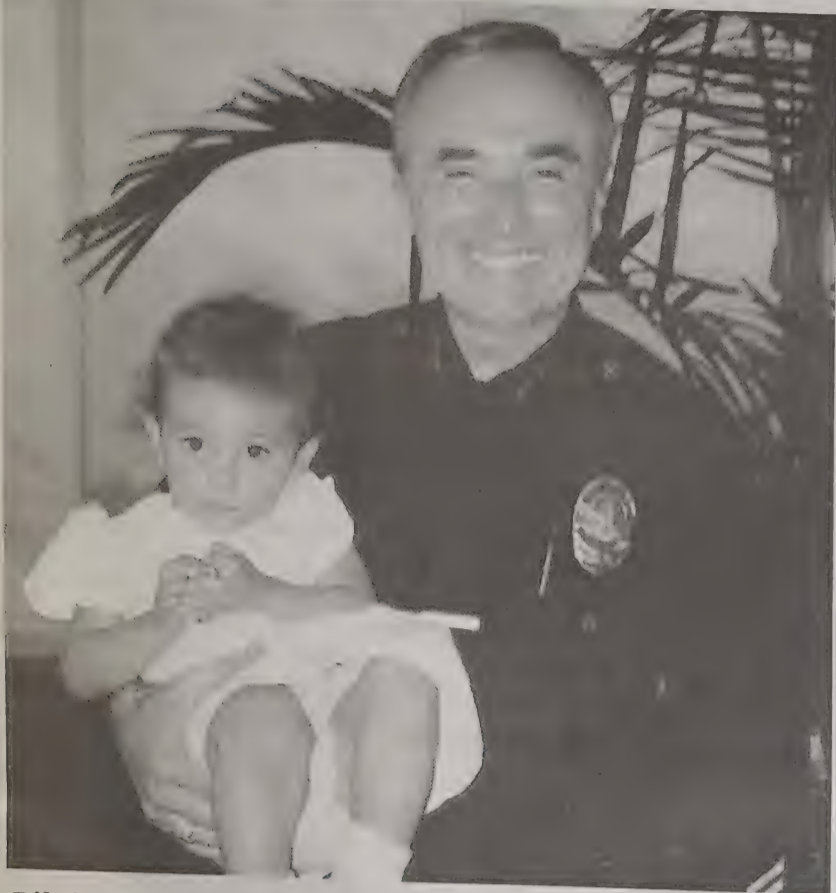
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JOHN MATARAZZO
Retired LAPD
Senior Loan Officer



Rileigh Repovich in the arms of the law.

Used Cell Phones Donated to Senior Leads

by Page Miller

Communications is vital between Senior Lead Officers (SLOs) and the community. At a time of budget constraints, it is important to utilize and maneuver existing resources to where they are needed. For the past few months I have coordinated an effort to collect used cell phones from Neighborhood Watch and community members, friends, family and police officers. These cell phones have been distributed to Senior Leads who had no working phones.

The request for used cell phones started in one division but grew as inquiries were made to other divisions. Many SLOs had no working cell phones. It has taken a lot of mixing and matching batteries and chargers. Thus far approximately 30 used cell phones have been distributed to SLOs all over the city.

Additional distributions will be made as phones are received. Phones must be compatible with AT&T and have no SIMS card. Any phones that cannot be reprogrammed for SLOs will be donated to the HOPELINE at Verizon. In turn, they will distribute the used phones to battered women's shelters for 911 access.

As I was picking up the donations, not one person asked me what division their phone was going to. This is just another example of reaching out and divisions supporting each other. What is that old saying...one person's used cell phone is another person's lifeline! As always, Sandy and I will continue to lend our support to the SLOs and community policing.

Page Miller co-chairs *Save Our Senior Leads* with Sandy Munz. They can be reached at saveourslos@hotmail.com or (818) 623-6411.

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Los Angeles Police

MEMORIAL FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

The Los Angeles Police Memorial Foundation will issue five \$5,000 scholarships in April 2004. Each scholarship will be for \$5,000 per year for four years/\$20,000 maximum.

To be eligible, a student must be the child of a current, fulltime LAPD employee off probation and be enrolled or accepted at an accredited college or university. Current college students must not have completed more than their sophomore year.

The merit-based awards will be made to students who have demonstrated:

- a) Excellence in academic studies;
- b) Good character and high moral standards; and
- c) Extra-curricular achievement

Each applicant is required to submit two letters of recommendation.

One must be written by a current (12th grade or college) teacher. The other letter may come from any unrelated adult who knows the applicant well enough to comment on his or her character and moral standards. School transcripts are also required.

The deadline for receiving all materials is March 15, 2004.

Applications may be obtained by contacting:



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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Working Together Toward Making Los Angeles America's Safest City



by Rocky Delgadillo
Los Angeles City Attorney

During the time I have served as your city attorney I have gained a tremendous amount of respect and admiration for Los Angeles police officers. We can quantify your hard work in statistics but you can see it more clearly in the eyes of Los Angeles residents whose lives have improved.

I wanted to let you know a little bit about the job so we can work together in our common goal of making Los Angeles the safest city in the United States.

From day one, public safety, improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods, and saving taxpayer dollars have been my top priorities. Effective policing is critical step in meeting these goals and to the overall future of the city of Los Angeles.

In order to ensure that the Los Angeles Police Department remains the nation's best police force, I have devoted many of my office's resources to serving the legal needs and interests of your department and the communities you serve.

Most police officers are familiar with the activities and initiatives of the City Attorney's Criminal Branch. In addition to increasing the overall misdemeanor conviction rate and increasing the number of gang injunctions, we launched the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program in 2002. Under this innovative program, I assigned a prosecutor to each of the LAPD's 18 geographic divisions to partner with the Senior Lead Officers and community members to attack issues such as graffiti, prostitution and vandalism. The program focuses on quality of life crimes that left alone create an atmosphere of apathy, fear and decay that becomes conducive to more serious crimes. With your help, the program was an overwhelming success in its first year, and was expanded 50 percent by

the City Council

In addition to prosecuting quality of life crimes, my office represents the LAPD's civil interests. More specifically, the City Attorney's Office has a team of experienced lawyers who are dedicated to vigorously representing the city and individual officers in civil lawsuits alleging police misconduct or violation of an individual's civil rights. Last year, our team took 20 cases to trial and obtained 18 defense verdicts. The remaining cases ended in verdicts for amounts less than what the plaintiffs originally demanded.

The 18 successful defense verdicts included a number of difficult cases. In one case, my office defended nine officers accused of racial profiling and excessive force for conducting a high-risk stop on three people, including a Virginia judge. It turned out there was a mix-up at Department of Motor Vehicles with the license plates. In another defense verdict, we successfully defend-

ed the LAPD in the highly publicized "Halloween Shooting" case, in which an officer was sued over the shooting and killing of a party guest who had pointed a replica gun at the officer.

A vast majority of the lawsuits filed against the LAPD never make it to a courtroom. In fact, the Office of the City Attorney dismissed 92 cases before trial last year. Working in consultation with the Department, we make sure the right cases are settled for the right reasons. We continue to hold a strong willingness to take tough cases to trial, and as a result we have lowered the overall civil liability payouts in police misconduct cases by an average of 35 percent in the last two years.

Together, we have made tremendous strides to increase the quality of life for our residents and improve the greater safety in Los Angeles. I look forward to our continued partnership building on the strong foundation of our City.

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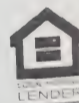
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VETERAN'S CORNER



American Legion
Police Post # 381

Post Commander Dennis DeNoi

POST MEETINGS

THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

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Covina, CA 91724
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EDITOR "JJ" LEONARD
(818) 992-1414

by J. J. Leonard

Apologies

When I read the October issue of the *Blue Line*, I noted I had failed to list the names of the comrades who had attended: **Bill Zimmerman, Bob Reeves, Dennis DeNoi, Frank Ortiz, Hal Yarnell, Gail Tam, Charlie Meter, Pinky Meredith, Frank Torres, Sam Mells, Thomas Walsh, 4th Area Cmdr. & Linda Walsh, Emmett Drennen, Clinton Erickson, Marshall L. May-deck, Boris M. Meneghelli, Glen H. Kailey, Rob Welborn, Woody Baca & J. J. Leonard.**

October 21, 2003, Meeting

Another good meeting. **Joe Albright** was there to lead J. J. in his cooking assignment. First we went shopping. That was fun, because of the strike we didn't want to cross any picket lines and bring any unnecessary attention to either the Post or the department. We served a special salad with some of Joe's special sauce—salad completely gone! And a pasta (rainbow noodles) with baby shrimp, plus cake for dessert. Delicious! We had plenty, so everyone from Panorama Post was invited in to join us at dinner. Our guests, retired officer **Pete Kutzbach** (U.S. Army), attended his first dinner/meeting. Seemed to be in deep conversation with everyone, and **Patrick "Terry" Johnston**, a visiting police officer with 19+ years from N. Ireland kept all the comrades quite busy with questions and answers going both ways. Those in attendance signed in

order of arrival: **Samuel Wells, Frank Torres, Bill Zimmerman, Frank Ortiz, Mike Regan, Richard Kalk, Dennis DeNoi, Hal Yarnell, Boris Ming, H. E. "Pinky" Meredith, Eric Clinton, Glen Kailey, Ray Elmer, Pete Kutzbach, Col. Emmett Drennen, J. J. Leonard, and Joe Albright.** Visiting dignitaries were 3rd Vice Cmdr from 17th District, **Richard Ledesma** and his wife, and **Evelyn Javaris** representing Leonidas Post 285. Rumor has it that our visitor from Ireland bought stock in the post through the post bar! He walked proud and never embarrassed anyone!

Motor School Graduates

The following officers graduated Motor School on September 18, Thursday, in front of me a large crowd of concerned friends and fellow officers. Present was Assnt. Chief **Jim McDonnell**, Deputy Chief **Mike Hillmann** (prior motor cop), Deputy Chief **Ron Bergman**, LAPD, and former LAPD Commander **Allen Kerstein**, now Chief of the Los Angeles Unified School District Police. Both Chief Jim McDonnell and Chief Mike Hillmann, along with Chief Allen Kerstein spoke to the graduates. Lt. **Jeff Taylor**, OIC-TCS, and Sgt. **Mike Harrington** handled the graduation as if they had been doing it for years!

A wonderful barbecue sponsored by the *Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California* was prepared by **Joe Albright**.

Ernie Mason and retired but not forgotten former OIC/TCS Sgt. **Doug Myers**. They served 170 hungry people! The graduates, **Tarek Azmy**, L.A. Airport Police; **Glenn Babaoka**, L.A. School Police; **Martin Barocio**, LAPD-West Traffic Div., trans to Valley Traffic Div.; **Eric Barr**, L.A. School Police; **Michael Dear**, L.A. Airport Police; **Chad Dellinger** (grand-nephew of Mike Regan-retired LAPD & Legionnaire), LAPD-Valley Traffic Div., trans to Central Traffic Div.; **Justin Farrington**, West Sacramento P.D.; **Anthony Hotchkiss**, LAPD-Valley Traffic Div., trans to Central Traffic Div.; **Brian Kelly**, LAPD-Valley Traffic Div., trans to Central Traffic Div.; **Thai Lee**, L.A. School Police; Sgt. **David Mackie**, L.A. School Police; **Tim Olsen**, LAPD-Valley Traffic Div., trans to Central Traffic Div.; **Ron Peak**, L.A. School Police; **William Romanelli**, LAPD-Valley Traffic Div., trans to South Traffic Div.; **Arthur Simms, Jr.**, LAPD-South Traffic Div., trans to Central Traffic div.;

Michael Scolaro, L.A. Airport Police; **Ken Snowden**, LAPD-Valley Traffic Div., trans to South Traffic Div.

Los Angeles Police Motorcycle Drill Team

December 13, Saturday, Pacoima Christmas Parade. For info: Chamber of Commerce.

December 14, Sunday, Chatsworth Christmas Parade, 1:00 p.m.

Court Rejects Suits Seeking Reparations From Japanese Firms

(Former POWs wanted settlement for their slave labor in World War II)

The U.S. Supreme Court turned aside appeals Monday from former American prisoners of war and others who claim they were forced to work for private Japanese companies as slave laborers during World War II.

The court's action, taken without comment, ends lawsuits in California against Japanese firms or their successors that allegedly forced prisoners to work in mines, dig roads and perform other duties more than 50 years ago.

Japanese conglomerates now known as Mitsui, Mitsubishi, Nippon Steel and others survived the war in part by using slave labor, and then thrived in the post-war industrial boom, lawyers for former prisoners claimed.

Former Japanese POWs and co-owners of a company that produced war mater-

"Our worst enemy is our own government," said **Harry Corre**, California Commander of American Ex-Prisoners of War, a national group fighting for war reparations. Corre, 80, of Los Angeles, is one of an estimated 250 California Veterans who filed individual lawsuits against Japanese companies.

"I think it's totally unfair—what they're doing is putting the U.S. State Department before so many men, their wives and their dependents," said Corre. "It is definitely wrong."

A federal appeals court dismissed the claims earlier this year. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said treaties signed by the U.S. barred prisoners from seeking restitution.

That ruling said federal power to make foreign policy overrode in 1999 state law in California that gave survivors and ex-POWs the power to sue.

Lawyers for aging veterans made an emotional appeal to the high court, which represented the last hope for resurrecting their claims.

"Having suffered unspeakable abuse in 1942-1945, the youngest of the survivors is nearly 80," the appeal said. "These men represent the finest of the generation that fought and won the Second World War, incurring enormous personal loss to preserve our way of life against severe and imminent threats."



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Veteran's Corner

continued from page 25

Corre was stationed with an artillery unit in the Philippines when he was captured in 1942 and forced to join the infamous Bataan Death March. A month later, after he managed to escape on a raft of driftwood, he was captured a second time on the island of Corregidor.

Corre said he then spent the next 3-1/2 years as POW working 14- to 18-hour shifts digging in an undersea coal mine for the Mitsui Manufacturing Co. on the island of Kyushu, 30 miles across the bay from Hiroshima.

"They put us in a condemned mine they wouldn't put their own people in, under the ocean. I was caught in a couple of cave-ins myself, and a lot of guys died," he said.

"It's the same disservice we got during the war," said Corre of his scuttled lawsuit against Mitsui, in which he had demanded unspecified reparations.

"We called ourselves the 'battling bastards of Bataan,'—no mama, no papa, no Uncle Sam! And we're getting the same treatment now, 50 years later."

Lawyers for the Japanese companies noted that the treaty ending the war in the Pacific specifically said that Japan would be unable to pay reparations for all damage and suffering during the war. Under the treaty, Japan agreed to pay the allies about \$4 billion in reparations.

A Firefighter to Remember

He had been riding horseback over his estate for many hours that cold December day, 204 years ago. He was 67 years old and the most revered man in America. Within a few hours he

would die of this exposure and be mourned as one of the greatest human beings who ever lived.

His name, of course, was George Washington, a man we think we all know, but in reality probably do not. For some reason the only things we learned about him while we were growing up were about a cherry tree, silver dollars across rivers and wooden false teeth. The problem is, none of these tales are true.

Then what is it about this man that keeps so many people from appreciating his true character and legacy? First of all there are no photographs of him as there are of Lincoln and later presidents and therefore he seems less real to us. The passage of time also erodes memory and reverence for people we do not really know. What was once a national holiday, Washington's birthday used to count for something. But that was before patriotism gave way to our lust for three-day weekends.

But this is a man we all need to know and appreciate. For our firefighters it is especially significant in that as a youth he shared their lifestyle and experiences as a member of "Friendship Fire Co." in Alexandria, Virginia. In addition, he had a lifelong affinity with the firefighter fraternity. He often visited firehouses and once purchased a side-crank engine for his company.

George Washington's place in history should be firmly fixed on the incredible contributions and sacrifices this "indispensable man" made for all of us regardless of where we came from or what we look like and forever! Because of him, other nations of this world have a chance to enjoy the same form of government and freedom we do.

Not only did this inexperienced officer take a rag-tag bunch of farmers into the field for eight years of brutal, miserable war against the elements and the most powerful military force on earth, but while and upon leading his army to victory consider the following?

He refused to become dictator of Virginia.

He rejected the notion that he or anyone should be king.

He put down the Newburg Conspiracy and refused to lead a military coup.

He surrendered his commission to Congress.

He guided the Congress in establishing our Constitution.

He established all the precedents for the Executive Branch.

He served eight years as our first president.

He then walked away from power again.

These are the important facts about George Washington's life, and the greatest legacy of any citizen this nation has ever produced. When King George III heard of Washington's plan to surrender

power, he said, "If he does that he will be the greatest man in the world." When Washington died, Napoleon declared days of mourning in France, and when he was dying on St. Helena he was quoted as saying, "They wanted me to be another Washington."

We no longer celebrate Washington's birthday. We usually display him as a toothless old man in the clouds, trivialized his likeness with dollar sales. Many schools at their very best seem to ignore him, and at their worst tend to tar him with the brush of slavery. A recent program on the Learning Channel referred to him as a "...irritable, partying, shameless womanizer" and made a big issue out of his poor teeth. There was little or no reference to the truly significant events in his life. Is it any wonder that our people are in the dark regarding his true importance to the nation?

And so it seems to me that we have not done justice to this man's memory and significance and that this year would be the time to make things right. On December 14, 2003, we will commemorate the 204th anniversary of his death. Let us all do whatever we can to help restore George Washington to his rightful place in history so that our nation never forgets the sacrifices he made and the risks he took to create the greatest nation on earth. Please read, write and speak about him and ask others to do the same, for we are all forever indebted to him for our sacred freedom, and he truly is a man to remember.

Special Days in December

Dec. 6 - Saturday, Clinton Boys Law Enforcement M.C. meeting. See J. J. for details.

Dec. 6 - Saturday night, 10:00 p.m., Gerald Society Christmas Party. See J. J. for details.

Dec. 7 - Sunday, National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Flags half mast until sunset.

Dec. 12 - Valley Traffic Div. Christmas Party, Calamigos, 480 Riverside Dr., Burbank.

Dec. 14 - Sunday, "Hero's Parade", City of San Fernando, Fire, Police, Military.

Dec. 20 - Saturday, First Day of Hanukkah

Dec. 25 - Thursday, Christmas Day

Dec. 31 - Wednesday, New Year's Eve

Our Brothers Still Missing

Many of our brothers who served in the Armed Forces of this great country are unable to enjoy the freedom and liberty which their sacrifices helped to secure. Pause for a few moments to remember those brave souls who have not returned home yet. Don't ever forget them! POW/MIA. Semper Fi!

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE "Welcome Aboard"

by Dennis DeNoi

As your commander, I had the pleasure of presiding over another Post meeting this past month and by the time this article is published we will have hosted "Old Timers Night" (November meeting). I apologize for failing to give you a heads up in my last article. Old Timers Night is one of my favorite Post functions. If you missed it, please join us at another Post activity. Speaking of joining us, 27-year member **Peter Kutzbach** attended the October meeting, his first ever (I think he said). He ran into several old partners and friends, exchanged old and new stories and overall had a good time. I was impressed with his life story and current activities. He vowed to return and bring a few friends. I also received a call from another long-time member (48 years in the Post), Mr. **Peter Bernard**, #7149. Due to personal obligations, he is unable to attend meetings but keeps abreast of Post members and activities via these articles. He noted that in our last article, "JJ" mentioned several members for their past military service and the time they spent as prisoners of war. Mr. Bernard wanted me to let those gallant veterans and others know that since their release from active duty, the military authorized and issued a "prisoner of war medal" in 1985. The medal is awarded to any person who was taken prisoner of war and held captive after April 5, 1917. The armed forces will issue or reissue any United States award that was lost, stolen, destroyed, rendered unfit through no fault of the recipient, or was never issued. The veterans or their next-of-

kin may make requests via the appropriate branch of the armed forces. If you need assistance in locating the address, please contact me. I can't help but make a reference to the many dedicated men and women of the armed forces that continue to serve, fight, and in some cases die, in far away places as we go about our daily lives. I included the accompanying photo of a "field" funeral service in Iraq from May, 2003, that was sent to me by Officer **Thomas DeLuccia**, who is serving in Iraq. In Army Staff Sergeant DeLuccia's words, "I think it [this picture] serves as a reminder of the painful reality of what goes on over here and the huge sacrifices that are being made."

In closing, I want to wish all Marines a happy birthday on this 228th anniversary of the founding of our great corps. I also encourage Marines to include the other proud uniformed services in our celebration, reflection, and vision for the future of our ever-changing U.S. Marine Corps. Semper Fi, DJD



"Field" Memorial Service, 315th Psychological Operations Company, May 2003 in Iraq. (Photo by SSgt. Thomas DeLuccia, U.S. Army Reserves.)



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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

Divisional Reporter is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Divisional Reporters may submit one report per Division for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.



by Marie Kardiban
Central Division

Here it is, the picnic picture everyone has been waiting for that goes with last



month's article regarding our annual divisional picnic. Unfortunately, we are always a month behind and the photo was not available. Looks like everyone had fun. The picture tells it all.



Chocolate Badges

Please support the Central Deputy Auxiliary Youth Program (DAPS) on their fundraising event. Starting at the end of November, you will be able to purchase chocolate police badges. That's right! A yummy, delicious chocolate badge that is sealed and gift boxed. This LAPD chocolate badge will be sold for a mere \$8 each or two for \$15. It is a great gift for the holidays and is tax deductible. If you would like to purchase one and support our youth program, please contact Officer Irma Foster or Officer Marie



Kardiban in the Community Relations office at (213) 485-6586.

Mud Run

LASD Mud Run was a blast. Central officers in the photo above (left to right): Reyes-Stell, Clansy, Sgt. Acosta, Furniss and Martinez participated in a five-person team mud run challenge



hosted by LASD-SEB. The run consisted of five-mile muddy hills, and terrain course.

Boot Camp Challenge

Officers Mario Marquez, Maria Reyes-Stell, and Andrew Clansy participated in the Marine Corps Boot Camp

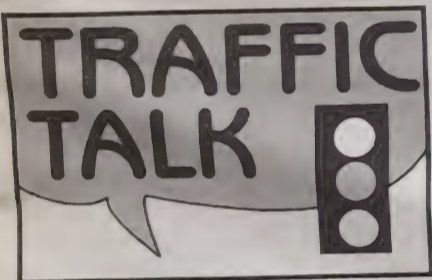
Challenge 2003 in San Diego. The course consisted of a three-mile obstacle course. Officers placed 10th out of 43 teams and completed the course in 34 minutes. Way to go!

Officer Recognition Luncheon

Mark your calendars for this year's Officer Recognition Luncheon on Febru-

ary 5, 12:00 noon at the Wilshire Grand Hotel. The lunch is hosted by the Central City Police Boosters to honor Central Area Personnel for their extraordinary efforts to make downtown safe for 2003. We are very fortunate to have Gordon Graham honor us this year as our main speaker. Central personnel will be chosen for supervisor, detective, officer, civilian, and volunteer of the year. If you have any questions or wish to attend this event, please contact Marie Kardiban in the CRO office at (213) 485-6586.

I would like to wish everyone a happy holiday. During this time of year we have a lot to be thankful for. If you feel the need to help the underprivileged children or seniors in your area, please come to the Community Relations Office. We will be distributing food, blankets, and other necessities to the needy seniors and families in Central. The party for the kids will be on December 16, 1500 hours at Arco Plaza on the 51st floor. There will be entertainment, toys, cookies, and of course Santa Claus, so feel free to stop by if you get a few minutes. Please be careful and safe out there.



by Officer Rudolph Baca
South Traffic Division

Promotions and Transfers

Congratulations to Arthur Lee Sims, who has graduated from motor school with flying colors! Arthur Lee will be leaving us and going to CTD. Returning to South Traffic from CTD is Milan Ayers, who used to be here and a few months back received his motor boots and arrows.

We also welcome Officer Romaneli and Officer Verna, freshman graduates of the last motor school. Leaving our division and transferring to VTD are BCMC Jason Meilleur and James Vasquez. Thank you, gentlemen, for all your hard work.

Detectives

Collision follow-up has a new head detective. We welcome Det.-3 Alasea "Lacy" Jackson, from Professional Standards Bureau. Do you want to know how to make sergeant? Ask Gilbert Esquibel who will be promoted to sergeant and transferred to West L.A. Division. Gil has been a P-3 at

STD for a long time. A few years back he took a position as a collision investigator and has become very knowledgeable in collision investigation. If you ever had a difficult traffic question or situation, you went straight to Gil. We will miss you. Take care, buddy, and come visit us soon.

Events

Anyone will tell you that police officers do not go hungry. Wednesday, October 1, Harold Hills and Sgt. Janice Hart cooked up a carne asada barbecue lunch to raise funds for our lightning-fast Baker to Vegas running team. For the small price of \$5, you received two large beef tacos with plenty of rice and beans. Not only was it a hot plate lunch, but there was plenty of spicy hot salsa and cool guacamole. No lack of hungry eaters, we had a house full of officers and civilians join in and support. If you are not familiar with our division, we are located in a section of the Baldwin Hills mall on Crenshaw Blvd. and Martin Luther King Blvd.

Our Collision follow-up Detectives Unit and the DARE Unit also share our hallway and building space. Outside adjacent to our parking lot is a branch of the LAPFCU. Now that you know, stop by and say hello.

This year's holiday party should be an event to remember. The grand venue will be the Sheraton LAX Hotel on Century Blvd. Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 6. Tickets can be purchased in the watch commander's office.

More Divisional Reporter on next page



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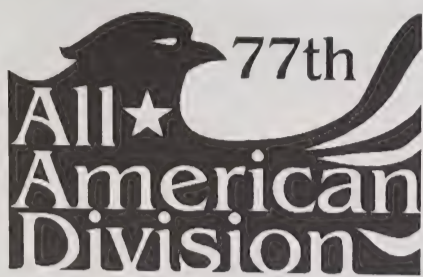
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Maria C. Marquez
77th Street Division

Drum Roll Please

On October 3, 2003, the 77th Street Bench Press Team continued its tradition of bringing home the first place trophy! Congratulations to all of the officers that dedicated their time and effort to this contest. Many of you came in on your day off, some were on vacation, and others lifted before their start of watch and some even reported after a long W3 shift to be a part of this division. The respect displayed for the division and this contest is indeed commendable!

Albert Franco set another record with a lift of 550 pounds and a courtesy

mention to one of our favorite probationers, **Patricia Braendale** (now Rampart) who lifted 200 pounds! Whoa!

The *L.A. Times* featured our efforts in a wonderful article, which made our efforts known throughout the nation.

Taking Back the Hood

On October 23, hundreds of officers from throughout the Department met at the Sports Arena and were briefed on the service of the 29 warrants that were going to be served in the "Nothing But Trouble Gangster" and "52 Hoover Hoods." For years these notorious gang members have held their communities hostage and after months of planning, Det. **Mike Steward** made it happen. It was indeed a work of art! From the Code Alpha pep talk from the brass, dinner courtesy of the League and then at 1900 hours, BAM! It was better than "Training Day."

Some community members returning to their residences after and during the service of these warrants, thought Hollywood was filming a movie due to the additional attention their neighborhoods were receiving. Once again our efforts

were mentioned in the *L.A. Times*. Another perfect example of the good things that are happening in 77th Street!

It's Official

The unofficial Christmas party at the Desert Room in Gardena will be held on Wednesday, December 10th. Roll call will start at 2000 hours and as always will be catered in true holiday fashion. We look forward to sharing some Christmas spirit with all of you who wish to attend. If you need any additional information, drop a line to a 77th Street Senior Lead Officer.

77th Street Setting Records

77th Street has been setting records within the department as of late. Each week the department puts out stats on various patrol issues and a typical week in patrol at 77th Street will show: response time at 7.4; outside divisions coming into 77th, 5; 77th Division going outside of 77th, 68; traffics handled, 88; hot shots handled, 482.

We are always looking for some dedicated workers. If you are interested in having a good time and working hard, get that transfer in. Be advised there is a waiting list!

Stocking Stuffers

77th Street is proud to announce that Santa Claus made an early delivery to the Hollenback and Sauvao households.

Merry first Christmas and welcome to the family, boys! You see, there is a Santa Claus after all!



Mark Alexander Sauvao
6/24/03, 9 lbs, 7 oz. & 19 inches
Mark (S/E) and Cathy (77th) Sauvao



Adam Michael Hollenback
9/18/03, 6 lbs, 6 oz., 20-1/4 inches
Ara and Alicia (77th) Hollenback

May Christmas bring to you and yours some wonderful memories.



Department Command Post
& Communications Div.

by Lt. Charles Mealey
Communications Division and the
Department Command Post

Congratulations

Officer **Candice Duke** (DCP) and **Shawn** (S/E Div) are the proud parents of Tanner Jackson Duke who was born October 10. The 9 lb., 8 oz. boy and parents are doing well. Maybe we have a future police officer or dispatcher.

Welcome

We welcome to the Department Command Post P-3 **E. Dirksen** (PRD) and P-



Sgt. Gary Romo celebrates Halloween at Valley Communications.

2 **F. Gonzalez** (WIL). Officers **D. Garcia** (CENT) and **J. Kong** (CENT) are

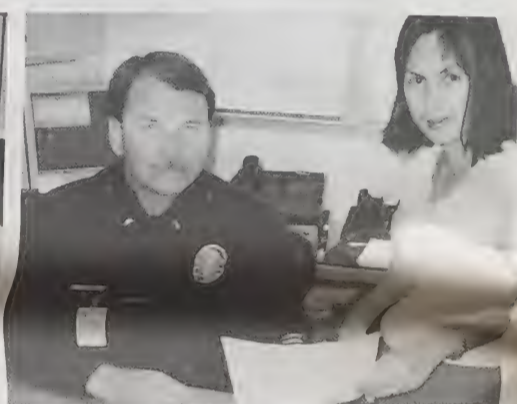


Officer Juan Zendejas makes critical notifications at DCP.

learning the fine art of 9-1-1 call handling for the next three months.

Valley Communications Dispatch Center (VCDC)

As I write this article, we are relieved that the fires in the West Valley area did not impact our new dispatch center. Val-

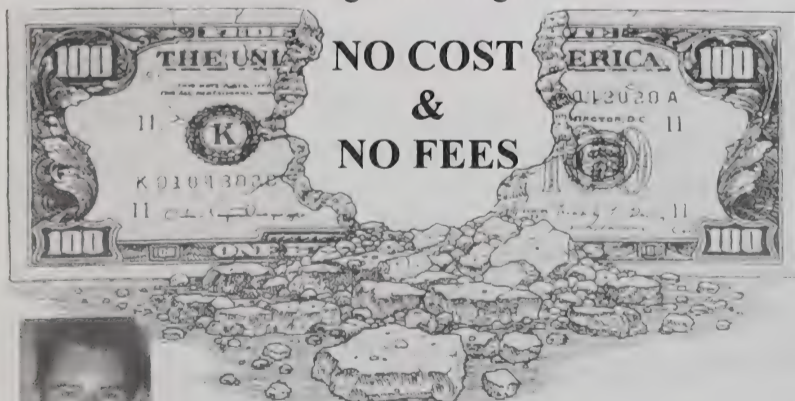


Lt. Stan Ludwig (now OIC of Valley Communications) consults with Ruby Bravo.

ley PSRs were relieved to see the fire and police command post set up right outside their front door. The center is now responsible for handling Valley 9-1-1 and dispatch functions. Police officers are always welcome—be sure to listen in for a few minutes to some 9-1-1 calls and see what the job of PSR entails.

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Northeast corner

by Susan Carrasco
Northeast Division

Northeast Open House

The Northeast 4th annual Crime Prevention Fair and Open House took place on October 11. This year was by far the best. Over 3,000 community members attended, demonstrating the commitment of our community members in their partnership with the Northeast Area Community Police Station. This year also marks the first time that a federal agency, the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearm (ATF), manned a booth. Council members Tom La Bonge, Antonio Villaraigosa and field deputies **Mitchell O'Farrell** and **Jim Omahan** represented all of the council districts. Assistant Chief **McDonnell** and Deputy Chief **Brennan** also attended the fair. The senior lead officers spent the day cooking a barbecue lunch of chicken, rice, beans and tortillas as a fundraiser for our booster group BLEND (Business for Law Enforcement Northeast Division). A deejay and dancers from the Church of Scientology, as well as a Folkloric dance group provided entertainment for the community members who attended the fair.

Commendable Capers

Caper #1: On 10/15/01, at approximately 0330 hours, Officers **Tojong**, #27088, and **Martinez**, #33258, were in the area of Ambrose Avenue and Normandie Avenue. The area had been identified as having frequent burglary from motor vehicles during a recent COMPSTAT meeting. While checking the area, they observed a man seated in a parked vehicle. The man crouched down when the officers neared. Due to the man's odd actions, the officers stopped and exited their police vehicle. The officers approached the parked vehicle on foot. The officers observed several tools lying on the vehicle's seats. The man informed the officers that he was not from the area and had stopped his vehicle to rest. Yet the officers remembered the suspect from a prior arrest. At the same time, they heard the noise of something being dropped. The sound appeared to have come from behind a parked vehicle a short distance away. They discovered a second man hiding on the sidewalk next to the car. A pair of gloves, a screwdriver, and a flashlight were also on the sidewalk next to the man. A check of the man's car revealed numerous items that appeared to have been stolen from other cars. The men were arrested for burglary from a motor vehicle and transported to Northeast Station. While there, Northeast Det. **Vargas**, #23952, interviewed the two and determined that they both matched the description of two suspects who had recently committed a robbery and an attempted robbery. The two were subsequently booked for the robbery.

The officers are commended for their observation skills, tenacity and familiarity with car burglars and their methods. The detective is commended for his investigative skills and knowledge of criminal activity in Northeast Division.

Caper #2: For the past two months, the east Hollywood and Los Feliz area have been plagued with residential burglaries. On September 24, 2003, at 1145 hours, Officers **Davis** and **Richardson** received a radio call, "Burglary suspects there now, 3800 Los Feliz Blvd." Upon their arrival along with additional units, a witness was interviewed and a crime broadcast was immediately put out. As Officers Davis and Richardson continued their investigation, they heard a radio call come out at 4700 Ambrose Avenue, "Burglary suspects there now." The description of the suspect given was similar to the burglary that had just occurred. Officers Davis and Richardson immediately responded to the area of the second radio call. Air 11 advised that they observed suspects exiting the complex running eastbound on Ambrose Street toward Vermont Ave. As Officers Davis and Richardson observed one of the suspects running eastbound approaching Vermont Avenue. The officers took the suspect into custody. Sgt. **Wiggins** was watching and following a second suspect. The officers met with Sgt. **Wiggins** approached the suspect. The suspect dropped the stolen property just before he was taken into police custody. Air 11 directed Officers **Arzate** and **Prado** to New Hampshire Avenue just south of Ambrose Avenue where

they were able to take the third suspect into police custody. The suspects were transported to Northeast Station and advised of their Miranda rights. One suspect waived his rights and advised officers of the locations burglarized and property stolen. As of October 9, 2003, Northeast Dets. **Stephenson**, **Lenchuk** and Officer **Lopez** have identified ten additional suspects linked to this burglary ring and will continue the investigation until all suspects involved are in custody. Officers, supervisors and detectives are commended for their attention to duty, tenacity, hard work, teamwork, and commitment to excellence.

Happy Holidays

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Bah Humbug to all. May all your holiday wishes and joys be filled to the brim during the holiday season and the coming new year. The holidays are not always easy for us all, so remember when answering a radio call or even a call from a friend, you may be the only person to wish them a happy holiday. So share your joy and your cheer. Happiness is just as contagious as sadness and we all have the power to make today and tomorrow a happy day for someone else. So be powerful today, tomorrow and every day and see how easy it is to make someone else feel good. Even with just a friendly smile and a thoughtful "hello." HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Out of the Great Southwest

by Sharon McTiernan
Southwest Division

Southwest Heroes

All of us at Southwest were happy to welcome back Sgt. **Guay** and Officer **Albert** who were called to duty for Operation Iraqi Freedom. They both received a Blue Star Service Banner, which was displayed at the station while they were away. Welcome back and thank you for your service.

Southwest Officer Awarded the Medal of Valor

Congratulations to Officer **Ceja** who received the Medal of Valor in October. Officer Ceja was involved in a short pursuit, which ended with the suspect

abandoning his vehicle with a shotgun in his hands. The suspect fired into the vehicles of other officers that were responding to the scene. A gun battle ensued and Officer Ceja and his partner were unable to stop the suspect's actions. The suspect was transported to the hospital where he later died from his injuries.

New Arrivals

Congratulations to Det. **Nolte** and his wife on the birth of their daughter, Emma Paige Nolte, who was born on October 28, 2003, weighing in at 5 lbs., 11 oz. Congratulations also go out to Senior Lead Officer **Ishida** and his wife on the birth of their baby girl.

Promotions

Congratulations to Officer **Carter** and Officer **Whiteman** who were recently promoted to Field Training Officers at Southwest. Good luck, guys!

Ins/Outs of Southwest

So long to the following officers: Sgt. **Perez**, #27629, is off to Central; Det. **Weber**, #21881, made D-2 at Newton; Det. **Caraveo**, #26264, went to DSD;

Det. **Erwin**, #33017, went to Rampart; Det. **Aleman**, #25310, went to RMG; P-3 **Ortega**, #31921, went back to HOBK; P-2 **Altamirano**, #34028, went to Central (hopefully no more desk duty for you, Adam); P-2 **Ruvalcaba**, #35177, left us for PSB (enjoy those weekends off); and P-2 **Terukina**, #35666, finally got his wish to go back to WLA.

We welcome the following officers to Southwest: Sgt. **Berke**, #31585, from WIL; Det. **Shaw**, #26923, from FTHL; Det. **Dean**, #33225, from Rampart; Det. **Armstrong**, #33711, from WLA; Det.

Behrke, #27918, from WLA; Det. **Saidenberg**, #33077, from WLA; P-2 **Acosta**, #36200, from Central; P-2 **Mendoza**, #36235, from VNY; and finally P-1s **Muro**, #36863, and **Olmedo**, #36557, from the academy.

And finally all of us at Southwest would like to give a big shout out to Sgt. **Acosta** who is currently at home recovering from back surgery. Sgt. Acosta, we hope you and everyone else who is out sick or out on a duty-related injury recovers soon and makes it back to Southwest!

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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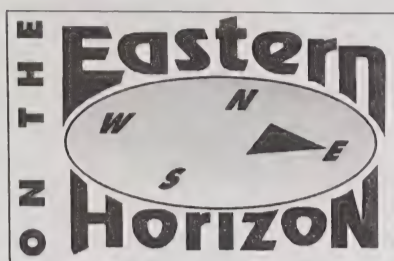
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Ruben Rodriguez
Hollenbeck Division

Happy holidays, everyone! I hope your Thanksgiving holiday was an enjoyable one in the company of your loved ones. May your Christmas celebration be just as full of cheer and warmth as you surround yourselves with family and close friends.

...and Speaking of Christmas

Don't forget to mark the date for this year's Hollenbeck holiday bash. The annual event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, December 20th at the Embassy Suites Hotel in the city of Covina. For more details or to purchase tickets, please contact PSR Linda Ortega in the subpoena control office.

Officer Appreciation Day

On October 1, Councilman Antonio Villaraigosa hosted an Officer Appreciation Day at Hollenbeck Station. Several officers were presented with certificates of appreciation. Everyone had a great time

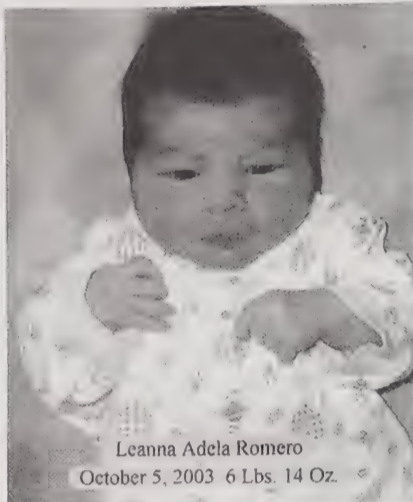


Richard Rodriguez being recognized by Councilman Villaraigosa.

while taking turns sending the willing councilman into the water dunk tank. As depicted in the photo, Senior Lead Officer **Richard Rodriguez** is one who is very much appreciated.

Baby Announcement

I am happy to announce the arrival of little Leanna Adela Romero. Baby Leanna, newborn daughter of Officer **Ronnie**



Baby Leanna Adela Romero.

Romero and his lovely wife Melyn, made her presence known on October 5 at precisely 12:24 a.m. Leanna weighed in at a healthy 6 lbs. and measured 19 inches in length. **Ronnie** and Melyn, congratulations on your new bundle of joy and we wish her a lifetime of health

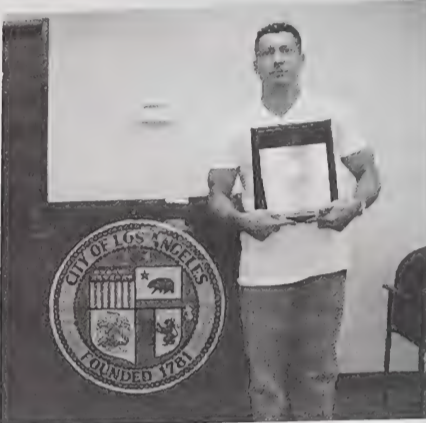
and happiness.

Baker to Vegas

It's not too early to start training for the 2004 Challenge Cup Relay. Runoffs are just around the corner. Please get yourself ready by training hard as we go after another mug. If you want to participate in the upcoming event, either as a runner or as a member of the support team, please see **Austin Fernald** in the senior lead office.

Congratulations

Whoever said that anyone is capable of getting promoted must have had **Alex Ortiz** in mind. It just so happens that my good buddy and fellow Dodger fan did just that. Alex has been promoted to ser-



Newly promoted Sergeant Alex Ortiz.

geant and is now assigned to Hollywood Division. I promised him I would be nice while describing his promotion so I will stick to my word. Alex, congratulations on your promotion and good luck in your new assignment. You said you will return to your home here at Hollenbeck, so we'll hold the fort down while you are gone.

Welcome

A big Hollenbeck welcome goes out to several new family members. Det. **J. Kowalsky** is now back at Hollenbeck, coming to us from Southwest Division.

Det. **A. Caballero** has joined us from 77th, while Det. **T. Gutierrez** is in from Wilshire Division. P-3 **R. Ortega** has moved east from Southwest. P-2 **M. Morales** moves in from Central Division while P-2 **P. Marmolejo** comes from Rampart. Probationary Officers **L. Poole** and **D. Koslaski**, are now at Hollenbeck to continue the training that was started at the Los Angeles Police Academy. Last, but not least, we have two civilian employees joining the Hollenbeck family. Please welcome Clerk Typists **T. Walton** and **Gonzalez-Funches**. A welcome hand goes out to all of you and we hope your stay at Hollenbeck will be an enjoyable and memorable one.

Adios

We bid farewell and good tidings to Sgt. **Ruby Malachi**, now assigned to Pacific Division. We also say so long and congratulations to **Doug Pierce**, now assigned to Central Division, where he received an upgrade to P-3, training officer. **Marty Williams** is now at



Ruby Malachi and kids saying goodbye to Hollenbeck Division.

Training Division. Clerk Typists **Debbie King** and **P. Woo** are now at Foothill and Hollywood, respectively. Good luck to all of you in your respective new assignments.

See you all in 2004.

THE MAGNIFICENT

7

The Magnificent Seven
by "Helper"
Wilshire Division

On behalf of the entire Wilshire family, we would like to extend to all of you happy holidays. It is that time of year again, and Christmas is just around the corner. So get your shopping done early and remember, just because the Beverly Center is in our division, well let me put it this way, all those who enjoy handling 484s, raise your hand. I think you know what I mean.

Let me take a second to thank Sgt. **Bobby Smith** for the hard work he has put into making this article possible the last 12 months or so. Great job!

There have been many new additions to Wilshire, and if I were to print them all, then we would have a roster instead of an article, so let's just do it this way. Starting DP-1, I will again print those who have left our division and those who are arriving.

I am also asking that any officers that

have commendable capers or know somebody that has had one, please forward that report, or a brief summary of what happened. You can stay anonymous. We are also looking for a great artist that can design a new logo, so if you can draw, or if you know somebody that can, then I want you to please contact me ASAP.



Congratulations to Sergeant Jeanna Arvizu and Officer James Quinones of Southeast Division. They were married on August 22, 2003. The sunset ceremony and reception took place at The Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel. And for those of you who are wondering... she didn't bring her dogs!

Christmas Party

Wilshire Christmas party has been scheduled for December 12. The party will be at the Renaissance Hotel on Airport Blvd. in Pacific Division. Contact **Miguel Lopez** for after party special room rates. It should be a great party this year, and yes I will be armed with a camera.

I want to remind everyone to stop by Records and just say hello to the wonderful ladies that work in that little space. They do so much for us and a kind word goes a long way.

Wilshire Area officers would like to congratulate P.O. II **Heather Hansen** on her recent marriage. Heather and Erdem Gorfulu were married on October 19 in the city of Fullerton. Heather's bridesmaid, Officer **Jason Perez**, was also in attendance. Good luck, Heather!

On a Personal Note

On behalf of my entire family, I would like to thank Capt. **Findley**, commanding officer, Wilshire Patrol, and Sgt. **Mike (Billy) Gilbert** for helping me and my family during our time of need. My mother was especially grateful that a proper military burial was granted and delivered by such professionals. We would also like to thank all the officers who made the long drive down to San Diego County to show my family and friends the respect for my father and just how the LAPD family comes together. Everyone was thoroughly impressed.

Thank you!

Wilshire Vice Officers recently conducted a sting operation and made several arrests for prostitution. Job well done! Don't worry, Lt. **Arcos**, I will keep the Girls Gone Wild idea between us. Keep up the good work and don't forget, at least you have nice things to



wear for the upcoming Christmas party!

In closing, I would like to tell Officer **Chris Chavez** and his family that we are still pulling for him and we expect him to return back to work soon. Semper Paratus! We would also like to extend our thoughts and prayers to Sgt. **Evanury Arocho** and Sgt. **Knoll** who are out on extended IOD.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

West LA Journal

by Mary Dacey
West LA Division

Tavares goes, he didn't have anything to say, which is unusual as it was usually hard to get him to stop talking! Jesse said he had a great time here and hated to leave, but like others before him, it was the drive on the 405 that made him leave. Alexis told everyone that he knew how shy she was (ha ha) and that she would come back and visit. Lynet said that her new assignment was a tremendous opportunity for her, but she would come back if the right opportunity presented itself (as a D2? Added Lt. V). Capt. Chambers concluded the comments by emphasizing that saying "thank you" was really something in the heart.

Okay so now we found out that Paul Bishop has "stolen" another one of our group—Pam! Seems he talked Ms. Mott into going over to do the administrative work for the new unit. We say, "Not fair," but oh well. We wish her all the luck.

Happy holidays... happy holidays... seems hard to believe, doesn't it? And yet here they are, with only about 20 more shopping days until Christmas.

It is now the 3rd of November and I'd like to add a "few" more words. This is a commendable cop caper, but it's one I heard on the radio on K-Earth this morning while driving to work. Decjay Gary Brian is hilarious and usually does an item about someone who has been singled out by the "Flying Fickle Finger of Fate." It seems that a man called and ordered three large pizzas to be delivered to his home. At about the same time, the police were notified that a stolen credit card had just been used to order pizza from the same restaurant. Well, you guessed it—the pizza delivery man was none other than an officer "impersonating" a pizza man. He not only delivered the man his pizzas, but he delivered him some handcuffs and free lodging at the Gray Bar hotel as well!

It seems that it's almost time to say "goodbye" to another year and so rather than New Year's resolutions, I thought our roving camera crew could venture out and find out what some of our employees had to say about this year. Det. Kirby Carranza said that he had been "blessed." 'nough said! Det. Jim Willis said, "Golly, it was fast...I mean this was one of the fastest years." One reason was because of his near proximity to a pallid, pale, pasty anemic unnamed detective whose name shall remain anonymous and who rides his bicycle with his toes painted outward (or something to that effect). He said, "This is the only thing that has affected me this year; all the rest has been downhill." Tammy (of Tammy and the Bachelor) said that she was just having a great time and was grateful to be here. (We're also grateful that she's here and hope to tell you more about her in a future article, along with a picture of her and her CAT.) Larry Cameron, when ques-

tioned, said, "Thank God I'm out of the military!" Terri Minter said that it had been rather tumultuous lately and hoped that the year would end peacefully and celebratorially for the holidays. "Refreshing, how about you?" was the word that came to mind from Calvin Hill, the recent addition to the Financial Crimes Unit in West L.A. Stacy Simmons said she wished she was retired (ha ha) as she just returned from having six weeks off. Officer Barrera said, "Don't say anything unless you have a rep!" And Officer Peters said he just got back from military leave, that it's been a good year, and that we have two new captains who both seem like good guys. Rogelio Perez was on his last day of probation at the time of this writing and

was looking forward to going down to the south end. Sgt. Leon "Mr. Ensemble" Mims had this to say: "I'm gonna get you." He failed to elaborate on who or what you he was referring to. SLO Phil Enbody had a good, interesting, very quick year, while Ed Diaz told me to ask Officer Pupich, who he said was a man of many words. Officer Pupich turned out to be rather a man of few words as he said he'd have to ponder it. Susan Quan thought the beach party was the highlight of the year, with the Christmas party soon to follow on the 13th, so buy your tickets. Frank "F. P." Pettinato celebrated 36 years with the department on Oct. 23rd and said he is now the third or fourth person in seniority at WLA. He mentioned that the enormity of the Christmas prize was so significant that you'll have to be at the party to receive the prize. Jeff from Quicksilver Tow said it was a good year for him. We thank him, Leonard and the other tow yard employees for providing delicious barbecue for our Halloween potluck. I then made my way down to the dungeon as Officer Jim Merle would say. His response to the year was, "What can you say to sum it up in a year!?" Apparently a lot, as I barely managed to escape and get back to write this. Whew. First I had to hold that thought while he answered the Bat Phone (in a very professional manner, I might add), then he commented on so much paperwork, so little time. He said that words are worth a thousand pictures. He also said it was always a pleasure providing necessary training for the troops. "The bottom line is we are here to serve the customers." Merle posed a question of his own by commenting that it was a quality year at WLA and then asking, "Should you agree, Mary Dacey?" Yes, Merle, I think we all would. He mentioned some key promotions including the return of Sgt. Guzman (hooray) and said that we're working on "Doing what we do so well." His favorite core value, if forced to choose just one, would be "integrity in all we say and do," for without integrity, where would we be? You're absolutely right, Merle, and where you should all be right about now is at the end of this article. Thank you all.



West LA Detectives call on superhero for help (with their game).



Left to right: Det. Lynet Popper, Det. Amy Lillenberg, PSR Mary Dacey, Ofcr. Scrappy Scallon, Det. Paul Bishop and Det. Terri Minter.

said he was very excited to have come this far and that he had great T.O.s. He

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Officer Carlos Langerica

On the morning of July 4, 2000, Officer Carlos Langerica was on patrol with his partner in Northeast Area when a radio call was broadcast of a robbery involving three males driving in a gray colored vehicle. While enroute to the call, Officer Langerica and his partner observed a gray vehicle that matched the description of the robbery vehicle drive past them in the opposite direction. Officer Langerica's partner negotiated a U-turn and began to follow the suspect's vehicle. The driver of the vehicle refused to stop and began to accelerate causing the officers to initiate a pursuit.

Officer Langerica and his partner were aware that the suspects were approaching "Toonerville" gang territory, an area where there had been ambushes on Northeast Area patrol officers. While in pursuit, Officer Langerica and his partner observed that the street was partially blocked by a washing

continued on page 36



Officer Thomas Baker

On the morning of July 4, 2000, Officer Thomas Baker was on patrol with his partner in Northeast Area when a radio call was broadcast of a robbery involving three males who fled in a gray colored vehicle. While enroute to the call Officer Baker and his partner observed a gray vehicle, that matched the description of the robbery vehicle, drive past them in the opposite direction. Officer Baker made a U-turn and began to follow the suspect's vehicle. The officers initiated a pursuit when the driver of the vehicle refused to stop and began to accelerate.

Officer Baker and his partner were aware that the suspects were approaching "Toonerville" gang territory, an area where there had been ambushes on Northeast Area patrol officers. While in pursuit, Officer Baker and his partner observed that the street was partially blocked by a washing machine. As Officer Baker negotiated a right-

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Officer Mark Aguilar

On the evening of December 17, 2000, Officer Mark Aguilar and three other Metropolitan Division officers were flagged down by a citizen who informed them that an apartment building, located on Hollywood Boulevard, was on fire. The two-story building was occupied at the time, putting the residents inside in peril.

Arriving at the scene Officer Aguilar and the other Metropolitan Division officers

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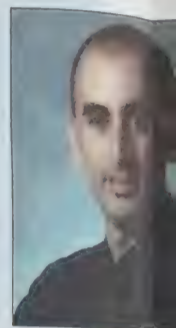


Officer Guy Dobine

On the evening of December 17, 2000, Officer Guy Dobine and three other Metropolitan Division officers were flagged down by a citizen who informed them that an apartment building, located on Hollywood Boulevard, was on fire. The two-story building was occupied at the time, putting the residents inside in peril.

Arriving at the scene Officer Dobine and the other Metropolitan Division officers

continued on page 35



Officer Ivan Ramos

On the evening of December 17, 2000, Officer Ivan Ramos and three other Metropolitan Division officers were flagged down by a citizen who informed them that an apartment building, located on Hollywood Boulevard, was on fire. The two-story building was occupied at the time, putting the residents inside in peril.

Arriving at the scene Officer Ramos and the other Metropolitan Division officers

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Officer Robert Ferrer

In the late morning hours of Friday, May 24, 2002, a massive explosion ripped through a multi-unit apartment complex in Encino. When Officer Robert Ferrer and his partner, and two other officers arrived at the rear of the complex, they observed flames engulfing the northern section of the three-story structure. Hundreds of local residents congregated in the area as tenants evacuated the building and milled about the area, shocked and with nowhere to go. So great was the devastation to the structure that the responding officers initially thought they

continued on page 35



Officer Raymond Diaz

In the late morning hours of Friday, May 24, 2002, a massive explosion ripped through a multi-unit apartment complex in Encino. As Officer Raymond Diaz and his partner, and two other officers arrived at the rear of the complex, they saw flames engulfing the northern section of the three-story structure. Hundreds of local residents congregated in the area as tenants evacuated the building and milled about the area, shocked and with nowhere to go. So great was the devastation to the structure that the responding officers initially thought they

continued on page 35



Officer Jose Maldonado

In the late morning hours of Friday, May 24, 2002, a massive explosion ripped through a multi-unit apartment complex in Encino. When Officer Jose Maldonado and four other officers arrived at the scene, they saw flames engulfing the northern section of the three-story structure. Hundreds of local residents congregated in the area as tenants evacuated the building and milled about the area, shocked and with nowhere to go. So great was the devastation to the structure that the responding officers initially thought they were dealing with

continued on page 36



Officer Jude Bella

In the late morning hours of Friday, May 24, 2002, a massive explosion ripped through a multi-unit apartment complex in Encino. As Officer Jude Bella and four other officers arrived at the scene, they observed flames had engulfed the northern section of the three-story structure. Hundreds of local residents congregated in the area as tenants evacuated the building and milled about the area, shocked and with nowhere to go. So great was the devastation to the structure that the responding officers initially thought they were dealing with an act of terrorism.

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AGE L OF VALOR



Officer Fernando Zuniga

On the evening of December 17, 2000, Officer Fernando Zuniga and three other Metropolitan Division officers were flagged down by a citizen who informed them that an apartment building, located on Hollywood Boulevard, was on fire. The two-story building was occupied at the time, putting the residents in peril.

Arriving at the scene, Officer Zuniga and the other Metropolitan Division officers

on page 36

continued on page 37



Officer Raul Soto

On the evening of December 17, 2000, Officer Raul Soto, assigned to Hollywood Patrol Division, responded to a radio broadcast of a major structure fire of an apartment building on East Hollywood Boulevard. Responding immediately, he was the first patrol unit to arrive at the scene. The two-story building was occupied at the time, putting the residents inside in peril.

Officer Soto was joined by four Metropolitan Division offi-

continued on page 36



Officer Roy Ceja

On the evening of Tuesday, October 24, 2000, Officer Roy Ceja and his partner, attempted a traffic stop at the intersection of 66th Street and Denker Avenue, in 77th Street Area. The driver initially stopped, but refused to cooperate with the officers' instructions and suddenly drove off, ignoring the police vehicle's emergency lights and sirens. The officers initiated a pursuit, drawing the response of additional police units as well as a police helicopter.

A sergeant and a captain, in two separate vehicles, joined Officer Ceja and his partner in the pursuit of the fleeing suspect. As the suspect attempted a right turn into an alley, he collided with a vehicle parked at the curb and his vehicle came to a stop. Officer Ceja and his partner stopped their vehicle to the rear of the suspect's vehicle. The sergeant and the captain followed in their vehicles and believing that the pursuit had

continued on page 34



Officer Thomas Kimrey

On the evening of Tuesday, October 24, 2000, Officer Thomas Kimrey and his partner, attempted a traffic stop at the intersection of 66th Street and Denker Avenue in 77th Street Area. The driver, refusing to cooperate with the officers' instructions, suddenly drove off failing to stop for the emergency lights and sirens. The officers initiated a pursuit, drawing the response of additional police units as well as a police helicopter.

A sergeant and a captain in two separate vehicles joined Officer Kimrey and his partner in the pursuit of the fleeing suspect. As the suspect attempted a right turn into an alley, he collided with a vehicle parked at the curb and the suspect's vehicle came to a stop. Officer Kimrey and his partner stopped their vehicle to the rear of the suspect's vehicle. The sergeant and the captain, following in their vehicles and believing that

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Officer Alan Cieto

In the late morning hours of Friday, May 24, 2002, a massive explosion ripped through a multi-unit apartment complex in Encino. When Officer Alan Cieto and four other officers arrived at the scene, they observed flames engulfing the northern section of the three-story structure. Hundreds of local residents congregated in the area as tenants evacuated the building and milled about the area, shocked and with nowhere to go. So great was the devastation to the structure that the responding officers initially thought they were dealing with an act of terrorism.

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Officer Calixto Valdivia

In the late morning hours of Friday, May 24, 2002, a massive explosion ripped through a multi-unit apartment complex in Encino. When Officer Calixto Valdivia and his partner, and two other officers arrived at the rear of the complex, they saw flames engulfing the northern section of the three-story structure. Hundreds of local residents congregated in the area as tenants evacuated the building and milled about, shocked and with nowhere to go. So great was the devastation to the structure that the responding officers initially thought they were dealing with

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Officer Jesus Zaragoza

In the late morning hours of Friday, May 24, 2002, a massive explosion ripped through a multi-unit apartment complex in Encino. When Officer Jesus Zaragoza and his partner, and two other officers arrived at the rear of the complex, they saw flames engulfing the northern section of the three-story structure. Hundreds of local residents congregated in the area as tenants evacuated the building and milled about the area, shocked and with nowhere to go. So great was the devastation to the structure that the responding officers initially thought they

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Officer Steven Conner

In the late morning hours of Friday, May 24, 2002, a massive explosion ripped through a multi-unit apartment complex in Encino. When Officer Steven Conner and four other officers arrived at the scene, they saw flames engulfing the northern section of the three-story structure. Hundreds of local residents congregated in the area as tenants evacuated the building and milled about the area, shocked and with nowhere to go. So great was the devastation to the structure that the responding officers initially thought they were dealing with an act of terrorism.

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★ MEDAL OF VALOR ★

Aguilar continued from page 32

cleared the front area of spectators and received information that other people were still inside the building. Officer Aguilar and another officer partnered-up, entered the burning building and immediately went up to the second floor. In the smoke filled hallway, Officer Aguilar and his partner systematically began knocking and kicking-in doors in order to determine which units were still occupied. In one apartment, Officer Aguilar and his partner assisted four people down a smoky

stairway and out of the building to safety.

Both officers, light-headed from breathing the heavy fumes, cleared their lungs while outside and re-entered the building to continue their search of the second floor, clearing four additional apartments. Officer Aguilar and his partner then exited the building for air and re-entered to start clearing the first floor. Continuing toward the rear of the building, Officer Aguilar kicked-in the door of a unit to find a startled woman in her living room. Officer Aguilar and his partner quickly escorted the woman outside to safety.

As the flames were engulfing the first-floor hallway, Officer Aguilar and his partner continued clearing apartments until a large rafter collapsed approximately ten feet from where his partner was standing. They exited the building and were met by the Los Angeles City Fire personnel who advised them not to re-enter the building.

Officer Aguilar and his partner proceeded to the rear of the building where they assisted the Fire Department in handling crowd control. The officers noticed a young boy hanging out of a second story window, and immediately notified Fire

Department personnel and assisted them in the rescue of the boy. Suffering from the symptoms of smoke inhalation, Officer Aguilar and his partner were placed on oxygen by a responding paramedic unit and were transported to a local hospital.

Officer Mark Aguilar's courage and tenacity during a significant life-threatening situation was instrumental in saving the lives and preventing further injuries of the residents of the apartment complex. For his outstanding courage and persistent efforts, Officer Aguilar is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Baker continued from page 32

hand turn, an unknown suspect pushed a bicycle into the path of the police vehicle. As Officer Baker completed the turn, several unknown suspects fired upon the black and white police vehicle striking the driver's door.

Undeterred by this pre-planned ambush, both officers continued the pursuit as they received gunfire from the rear. Additionally, the suspects in the gray vehicle began to fire at the

officers. In an attempt to escape the unrelenting gunfire, Officer Baker rammed the back of the suspects' vehicle, causing it to stop. The suspect in the front passenger seat exited the vehicle and pointed a semiautomatic pistol at both officers as he ran down the street. Officer Baker rammed the suspect's vehicle again, pushing it into a fence. Officer Baker observed a suspect in the rear seat with an "Uzi" style assault weapon. Fearing that they both would again be assaulted by gunfire, Officer Baker and his partner fired

at the suspect as they ran to a position of cover behind a nearby tree. With one suspect in the driver's seat and a second armed suspect crouched in the rear seat, Officer Baker and his partner engaged the suspects once again with their service weapons.

Realizing the level of danger and threat to their lives, Officer Baker and his partner continued to communicate with each other and reloaded their duty weapons. Officer Baker calmly requested back up and additional units soon arrived and took all three sus-

pects and their weapons into custody. Incredibly, Officer Baker and his partner were not injured during the ambush although their police vehicle was damaged by gunfire.

Officer Thomas Baker's outstanding teamwork, communication skills and tactical expertise enabled him to prevail during a life threatening experience. For his selfless and valiant actions and commitment to the safety of the people of this City, Officer Baker is awarded with the Medal of Valor.

Bella continued from page 32

Officer Bella and the other four officers took control of the situation by entering the still shaking structure to evacuate residents still inside. The officers gathered the victims by the armload and escorted them into the street and out of danger. Having cleared the building of its obvious occupants, Officer Bella and three other officers established themselves in the lobby

area to organize the systematic search to locate trapped victims.

In a first-floor unit, Officer Bella and his partner discovered an elderly woman who was unable to exit her apartment. Noticing a wheelchair nearby, the officers placed the woman in the wheelchair and carried her out of the building. Without hesitation, Officer Bella and his partner re-entered the building to continue their search for additional victims.

Officer Bella and his partner contin-

ued searching the first floor, kicking open each door to check for victims. When the first fire and rescue personnel arrived, the officers were told that the ventilation system may be pushing hot smoke and fumes into undamaged apartment units and as a result those units could now have victims. Officer Bella and his partner checked and marked each unit, pushing themselves to the point of exhaustion. At times, the flames and smoke were so thick, the officers were unable to see or

breathe as they searched for additional victims. Both officers would later be treated for smoke inhalation.

Officer Jude Bella's courage, bravery and heroic actions, in rescuing victims of an apartment building fire, embodies the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his outstanding courage and persistent efforts, Officer Bella is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Cieto continued from page 33

Officer Cieto and four other officers took control of the situation by entering the still shaking structure to evacuate residents inside. The officers gathered the victims by the armload and escorted them into the street and out of danger. Having cleared the building of its obvious occupants, Officer Cieto and three other officers established themselves in the lobby area to organize the systematic search to locate trapped victims.

In a first-floor unit, Officer Cieto and his partner discovered an elderly woman who was unable to exit the apartment. Noticing a wheelchair nearby, the officers placed the woman in the wheelchair and carried her out of the building. Without hesitation, Officer Cieto and his partner re-entered the building to continue their search.

In a second-floor unit, Officer Cieto and his partner came upon an elderly couple. The woman was in her bed, warding off the effects of the smoke by remaining on her medical oxygen sys-

tem, her husband was unable to move her. Officer Cieto's partner prepared the woman for transport and Officer Cieto shut off her oxygen supply and quickly reconnected the feed to a portable oxygen bottle. Slinging the bottle over his shoulder, Officer Cieto assisted in leading the husband and wife down to the first floor and outside to safety.

Again, Officer Cieto and his partner re-entered the burning structure to continue the search for survivors. The officers kicked doors open and searched smoke filled rooms. At times

the smoke and heat were so intense that Officer Cieto and his partner were forced to retreat from the fumes, fill their lungs and hold their breath as their continued their search for survivors.

Officer Alan Cieto's courage, bravery and heroic actions, in rescuing victims of an apartment building fire, embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his bravery, outstanding and persistent efforts, Officer Cieto is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Ceja continued from page 33

been terminated stopped their perspective vehicles in close proximity to the suspect's vehicle.

The suspect, armed with a handgun, exited his vehicle and ran towards the sergeant's vehicle, firing three rounds at the sergeant, who was still seated in his vehicle and unable to immediately defend himself. Officer Ceja drew his service weapon and pursued the suspect on foot. When Officer Ceja's partner saw the suspect firing directly at the sergeant, he fired his service weapon, hoping to stop the suspect from killing the sergeant. Officer Ceja

did not engage the suspect with gunfire, due to the potential cross fire situation with the sergeant who was in the background. The suspect ceased his attack on the sergeant and then ran towards the captain's vehicle firing his weapon at the captain, who like the sergeant was still seated in his vehicle and unable to defend himself. Officer Ceja and his partner continued to advance on the suspect, forgoing cover in order to draw attention to themselves and away from the sergeant and captain.

The suspect abandoned his attack on the captain and ran down the street away from the officers. Officer Ceja

pursued the suspect on foot. The suspect suddenly turned and started running toward Officer Ceja while firing his handgun. About 14 feet away, Officer Ceja fired two rounds at the suspect. As the suspect continued to approach, the officer fired three additional rounds. Unaffected, the suspect aimed his weapon just eight to ten inches from Officer Ceja's torso. Officer Ceja, knocked the suspect's handgun away from his hand and sidestepped to the right. In doing so, Officer Ceja lost his footing and fell to the ground.

As Officer Ceja was falling to the ground, he heard the suspect fire an additional round that he assumed was

intended for his partner. In fear of his partner's life, Officer Ceja fired an additional three rounds at the suspect. Officer Ceja's partner also fired at the suspect. The suspect fell to the ground, where he was handcuffed and taken into custody.

Officer Roy Ceja performed gallantly, risking his life to save the lives of others. His heroism and dedication to duty are in the highest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his outstanding efforts and bravery, Officer Ceja is awarded the Medal of Valor.

★ MEDAL OF VALOR ★

Conner continued from page 33

rorism.

Officer Conner and the other four officers took control of the situation by entering the still shaking structure to evacuate residents inside. The officers gathered the victims by the armload and escorted them into the street and out of danger. Having cleared the

building of its obvious occupants, Officer Conner and three other officers established themselves in the lobby area to organize the systematic search to locate trapped victims.

Officer Conner and his partner began searching the first floor, kicking open each door to check for victims. When the first fire and rescue personnel arrived, the officers were told that the ventilation system may be pushing

hot smoke and fumes into undamaged apartment units with victims inside. Officer Conner and his partner checked and marked each unit, pushing themselves to the point of exhaustion. The officers remained inside the burning building clearing each unit. At times, the flames were so close to the officers that they were unable to see or breathe. Both officers would later be treated for smoke inhalation.

Officer Steven Conner's courage, bravery and heroic actions, in rescuing victims of an apartment building fire, embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his outstanding bravery and persistent efforts, Officer Conner is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Diaz continued from page 32

were dealing with an act of terrorism.

Officer Diaz, his partner, and the other two officers began gathering panicked victims from the upper and lower parking garage areas and escorting them out of the building to safety. The officers also stopped residents and others from entering the building. In

doing so, these officers undoubtedly saved the lives of dozens of people.

While Officer Diaz and two other officers were rendering first aid, an officer involved in rescuing a wheelchair-bound woman from the third floor called down for assistance. Officer Diaz and the two officers rushed back into the burning building even as secondary explosions hammered the structure. Together the four officers carried

the women and the wheelchair down the stairs and out of the building to safety.

An investigation of the fire revealed that a tenant was attempting to repair his gas stove in his second floor apartment. As the victim lit a cigarette, it generated the explosion. The force of the explosion was so great that it blew the victim through the wall of his apartment and down two stories into

the parking lot where he was found by other officers.

Officer Raymond Diaz's courage, bravery, and heroic actions in rescuing victims of an apartment building fire embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his outstanding courage and persistent efforts, Officer Diaz is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Dobine continued from page 32

cleared the front area of spectators and received information that other people were still inside the building. Officer Dobine and another officer, partnered-up and entered the burning building and immediately went up to the second floor. In the smoke filled hallway, Officer Dobine and his partner systematically began knocking and kicking-in doors in order to determine which units were still occupied. In one apartment, Officer Dobine and his partner assisted four people down the

smoky stairway and out of the building to safety.

Both officers, light-headed from breathing the heavy fumes, went outside, cleared their lungs, and re-entered the building to continue their search of the second floor, clearing four additional apartments. Officer Dobine and his partner then exited the building for air and re-entered to start clearing the first floor. Continuing toward the rear of the building, Officer Dobine's partner kicked-in the door of a unit to find a startled woman in her living room. Officer Dobine and his partner quickly escorted the woman

outside to safety. As the flames were engulfing the first-floor hallway, both officers continued clearing apartments until a large rafter collapsed approximately ten feet from where Officer Dobine was standing. They exited the building and were met by the Los Angeles City Fire personnel who advised them not to re-enter the building.

Officer Dobine and his partner then proceeded to the rear of the building where they assisted the Fire Department in handling crowd control. Noticing a young boy hanging out a second story window, the officers

notified Fire Department personnel and assisted in rescuing the child. Suffering from the symptoms of smoke inhalation, Officer Dobine and his partner were put on oxygen by a responding paramedic unit and transported to a local hospital.

Officer Guy Dobine's courage and tenacity during a significant life-threatening situation was instrumental in saving the lives and preventing further injuries of the residents of the apartment complex. For his outstanding and persistent efforts, Officer Dobine is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Ferrer continued from page 32

were dealing with an act of terrorism.

Officer Ferrer, his partner, and the other two officers began gathering panicked victims from the upper and lower parking garage areas and escorting them out of the building to safety. Officer Ferrer and his partner then ran up the ramp leading to the upper parking lot and found most of the north side of the building had collapsed and was burning furiously. Officer Ferrer and his partner discovered a surviving victim, laying dazed and badly burned in the parking lot within ten feet of the flaming building. The officers realizing they could not carry the burned man

without causing further injuries, began to talk him down. Burning debris rained down on both the officers and the man, as the officers were able to convince the man to walk under his own power to the bottom of the parking ramp. One large piece of burning debris struck Officer Ferrer's partner on the head, but undaunted, he continued to focus on talking the burn victim down the ramp where an off-duty medical doctor waited to give him immediate first aid.

While his partner was attending to other victims, Officer Ferrer heard a frantic call for help from the third floor where a wheelchair-bound woman was trapped in her apartment.

Running up a stairwell that was filled with smoke, Officer Ferrer located the apartment where the woman and her relatives were trying to evacuate. Taking over, Officer Ferrer began pushing the women in the wheelchair while shepherding her relatives toward the stairwell. Managing to get the woman down to the second floor, he called down to his partner and two other officers who rushed into the building as secondary explosions hammered the structure. The four officers carried the disabled woman down the last two flights of stairs and out of the building to safety.

An investigation of the fire revealed that the rescued burn victim found in

the parking lot was a tenant who was attempting to repair his gas stove in his second floor apartment. As the victim lit a cigarette, it generated the explosion. The force of the explosion was so great that it blew the victim through the wall of his apartment and down two stories into the parking lot where the officers found him.

Officer Robert Ferrer's courage, bravery and heroic actions in rescuing victims of an apartment building fire, embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his outstanding bravery and persistent efforts to save lives, Officer Ferrer is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Kimrey continued from page 33

the pursuit had been terminated, stopped in close proximity to the suspect's vehicle.

The suspect, armed with a handgun, exited his vehicle and ran towards the sergeant's vehicle firing three rounds into the vehicle. Officer Kimrey's partner drew his service weapon and pursued the suspect on foot. When Officer Kimrey saw the suspect firing directly into the sergeant's vehicle, he fired his

service pistol at the suspect, in an attempt to stop the suspect from killing the sergeant who was unable to defend himself. The suspect then began firing at the captain's vehicle. In order to draw attention to himself and away from the captain, Officer Kimrey's partner continued to advance on the subject forgoing cover.

The suspect abandoned his attack on the sergeant and captain and ran down the street away from the officers. Officer Kimrey's partner followed the

suspect on foot when the suspect turned and started running toward him, closing in fast and firing his handgun. Just seconds behind, Officer Kimrey observed his partner and the suspect engaged in a gunfight at close range. During the battle, Officer Kimrey observed his partner lose his footing and fall to the ground. Officer Kimrey, in an attempt to draw the suspect's attention away from his partner, fired his service weapon at the suspect. As the suspect responded to Officer

Kimrey's gunfire, his partner regained his footing, and fired at the suspect. The suspect sustained multiple gunshot wounds and was taken into custody.

Officer Thomas Kimrey performed gallantly, risking his life to save the lives of others. His heroism and dedication to duty are in the highest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his outstanding heroic efforts, Officer Kimrey is awarded the Medal of Valor.

★ MEDAL OF VALOR ★

Langarica continued from page 32

machine. As Officer Langarica's partner was negotiating a right-hand turn, an unknown suspect pushed a bicycle into the path of the police vehicle. As Officer Langarica's partner completed the turn, both officers were ambushed by gunfire. Several unknown suspects fired upon the black and white police vehicle, striking the driver's door. Officer Langarica's partner felt a bullet sail past his leg through the door of the vehicle.

Undeterred by this pre-planned ambush, both officers continued the

pursuit as they received gunfire from the rear. Additionally, the suspects in the gray vehicle began to fire at the officers. In an attempt to escape the unrelenting gunfire, Officer Langarica's partner rammed the back of the suspects' vehicle, causing it to stop. The suspect in the front passenger seat exited the vehicle armed with a semi-automatic pistol and ran down the street pointing his gun at both officers. Officer Langarica's partner rammed the vehicle once again, pushing it into a fence. The officers observed a suspect in the rear seat with an "Uzi" style assault weapon. Fearing that they both

would again be assaulted by gunfire, Officer Langarica and his partner fired at the suspect as they ran to a position of cover behind a nearby tree. With one suspect in the driver's seat and a second armed suspect crouched in the rear seat, Officer Langarica and his partner engaged the suspects once again with their service weapons.

Realizing the level of danger and threat to their lives, Officer Langarica and his partner continued to communicate with each other and reloaded their duty weapons. Officer Langarica's partner calmly requested back up and additional units soon arrived and took

all three suspects and their weapons into custody. Incredibly, Officer Langarica and his partner were not injured during the ambush although their police vehicle was damaged by gunfire.

Officer Carlos Langarica's outstanding teamwork, communication skills and tactical expertise enabled him to prevail during a life threatening experience. For his selfless and valiant actions and commitment to the safety of the people of this City, Officer Langarica is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Maldonado continued from page 32

an act of terrorism.

Officer Maldonado and the other four officers took control of the situation by entering the flaming structure to evacuate residents still inside. The officers gathered the victims by the armload and escorted them into the street and out of danger. Having cleared the building of its obvious occupants, Officer Maldonado and three other officers established them-

selves in the lobby area to organize the systematic search to locate trapped victims.

Officer Maldonado and his partner began searching for trapped victims and at times, the flames were so close that they were unable to see or breathe. In a second-floor unit, Officer Maldonado and his partner came upon an elderly couple. The woman was in her bed, warding off the effects of the smoke by utilizing her medical oxygen system. Her husband was unable to move her. Officer Maldonado pre-

pared the woman for transport as his partner shut off her oxygen supply and quickly reconnected the feed to a portable oxygen bottle. Officer Maldonado and his partner then led the husband and wife down to the first floor and outside to safety.

Officer Maldonado and his partner re-entered the burning structure, kicked open doors and searched smoke filled rooms for additional survivors. At times, the heat and smoke were so intense that the officers were forced to retreat from the fumes to fill

their lungs with non-toxic air. The officers would then rush back into an apartment, holding their breath as they searched for survivors.

Officer Jose Maldonado's courage, bravery, and heroic actions, in rescuing victims of an apartment building fire, embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his outstanding and persistent efforts, Officer Maldonado is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Ramos continued from page 32

response from the Fire Department. Officer Ramos and the other Metropolitan Division officers were alerted that people were still inside the building. All four officers entered the burning structure kicking in doors in an effort to get the occupants outside. Officer Ramos encountered a woman too afraid to open her door. Officer Ramos gained her trust and assisted her out of the burning structure. Returning immediately to the second

floor, Officer Ramos crawled on the floor looking for additional trapped residents. When it became too dangerous on the second floor, due to toxic smoke and flames, Officer Ramos ran down to the first floor to assist in the evacuation efforts there.

Because of the extreme heat and smoke, each of the officers would exit the structure gasping for fresh air. The officers would then return to the burning building in an attempt to rescue more occupants. As the fire spread and Officer Ramos was forced to leave the building, he discovered a woman

trapped leaning out of her second apartment window. The Fire Department had not arrived and no ladders were available. Thinking quickly, Officer Ramos moved a large trash-filled dumpster beneath the woman's window in an effort to break her fall. The woman positioned herself as close to the dumpster as possible and jumped, landing on the intended target. Officer Ramos then assisted her out of the dumpster and escorted her to a safe location. The Fire Department arrived soon after and took over the rescue operations.

Suffering from the symptoms of smoke inhalation, Officer Ramos and the other officers were put on oxygen by a responding paramedic unit and transported to a local hospital.

Officer Ivan Ramos' courage and tenacity during a significant life-threatening situation was instrumental in saving the lives and preventing further injuries of the residents of the apartment complex. For his outstanding and persistent efforts, Officer Ramos is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Soto continued from page 33

cers who had arrived at the scene. Assessing that an evacuation of the building was critical, Officer Soto and the other officers entered the burning structure and immediately began directing residents out of the building. In smoke filled hallways, Officer Soto and the other officers systematically began knocking and kicking-in doors

in order to determine which units were still occupied. Officer Soto personally escorted several of the building's residents to safety.

All the officers, light-headed from breathing the heavy toxic fumes, would momentarily exit the building, clear their lungs and re-entered the structure to continue their search. When the toxic smoke and flames became unbearable, Officer Soto exit-

ed the building and ran toward the rear of the structure. Officer Soto observed several people screaming for help out of their second story windows. As the Fire Department arrived at the scene, Officer Soto obtained a ladder placed it under a second floor window, allowing several trapped residents to climb down to safety.

Suffering from the symptoms of smoke inhalation, Officer Soto and the

other officers were put on oxygen by a responding paramedic unit and were transported to a local hospital.

Officer Raul Soto's courage and tenacity during a significant life-threatening situation was instrumental in saving the lives and preventing further injuries of the residents of the apartment complex. For his outstanding and persistent efforts, Officer Soto is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Valdivia continued from page 33

an act of terrorism.

Officer Valdivia, his partner, and the other two officers began gathering panicked victims from the upper and lower parking garage areas and escorted them out of the building to safety. The officers also stopped residents and others from entering the building. In

doing so, these officers undoubtedly saved the lives of dozens of people.

While Officer Valdivia and the two other officers were rendering first aid, an officer involved in rescuing a wheelchair-bound woman from the third floor called down for assistance. Officer Valdivia and the two officers rushed back into the burning building even as secondary explosions hammered the structure. Together, the four

officers carried the woman and the wheelchair down the stairs and out of the building to safety.

An investigation of the fire revealed that a tenant was attempting to repair his gas stove in his second floor apartment. As the tenant lit a cigarette, it generated the explosion. The force of the explosion was so great that it blew the tenant through the wall of his apartment and down two stories into

the parking lot where he was found by other officers.

Officer Calixto Valdivia's courage, bravery and heroic actions, in rescuing victims of an apartment building fire, embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his outstanding courage and persistent efforts, Officer Calixto is awarded the Medal of Valor.

★ MEDAL OF VALOR ★

Zaragoza continued from page 33

were dealing with an act of terrorism. Officer Zaragoza, his partner, and the other two officers began gathering panicked victims from the upper and lower parking garage areas and escorting them out of the building to safety. Officer Zaragoza and his partner then ran up the ramp leading to the upper parking lot and found most of the north side of the building had collapsed and was burning furiously. Officer Zaragoza and his partner discovered a surviving victim, laying

dazed and badly burned in the parking lot within ten feet of the flaming building. The officers, realizing they could not carry the burned man without causing further injuries, began to talk him away from the building. Burning debris rained down on both the officers and the man. One large piece of burning debris struck Officer Zaragoza on the head, but undaunted, he continued to focus on talking the burn victim down the ramp where an off-duty medical doctor waited to give him immediate first aid.

As Officer Zaragoza was aiding other victims, his partner was rescuing a

wheelchair bound woman trapped in a third-floor apartment. Managing to get her down to the second floor, he called down to Officer Zaragoza and two other officers who rushed into the building as secondary explosions hammered the structure. The four officers carried the disabled woman down the last two flights of stairs and out of the building to safety.

An investigation of the fire revealed that the rescued burn victim found in the parking lot was a tenant who was attempting to repair his gas stove in his second floor apartment. As the tenant lit a cigarette, it generated the explo-

sion. The force of the explosion was so great that it blew the tenant through the wall of his apartment and down two stories into the parking lot where the officers found him.

Officer Jesus Zaragoza's courage, bravery and heroic actions, in rescuing victims of an apartment building fire, embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. For his outstanding courage and persistent efforts, Officer Zaragoza is awarded the Medal of Valor.

Zuniga continued from page 33

cleared the front area of spectators and received information that other people were still inside the building. Officer Zuniga and the other officers entered the burning building and immediately began directing residents out of the building. Officer Zuniga and the other officers systematically began knocking and kicking-in doors in order to determine which units were still occupied. As the smoke thickened,

Officer Zuniga crawled down the hallway to the rear of the building where he directed trapped residents to safety.

All the officers, light-headed from breathing the heavy toxic fumes, would momentarily exit the building, clear their lungs and re-enter the structure to continue their search. When the toxic smoke and flames became unbearable, Officer Zuniga, being the squad leader, accounted for all the other officers and exited the structure.

Upon exiting, Officer Zuniga and other officers ran to the rear of the

building where they observed a young boy hanging out of a second floor window. Officer Zuniga immediately ran underneath the window from where the boy was hanging. Although he was showered with glass and debris, Officer Zuniga stayed and assured the boy that he would be alright. Officer Zuniga and another officer then secured a ladder from the other side of the building. In the meantime, the Fire Department had arrived and assisted in the rescue of the boy.

Officer Zuniga and the other officers

were put on oxygen by a responding paramedic unit and transported to a local hospital for symptoms of smoke inhalation.

Officer Fernando Zuniga's courage and tenacity during a significant life-threatening situation was instrumental in saving the lives and preventing further injuries of the residents of the apartment complex. For his outstanding courage and persistent efforts, Officer Zuniga is awarded the Medal of Valor.

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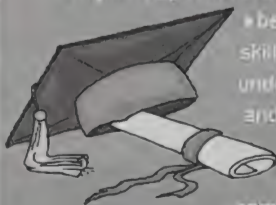
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Fitz
Rampart Division

Thanks

P2 **Mike Chang** and his family suffered a tremendous loss last month as Mike's mother passed away. A uniformed Rampart SEU detail joined Mike at the funeral and he also received an outpouring of support from others in the department. Mike wanted to send along his appreciation and gratitude for the support during the past month as it greatly helped during such a trying time.

Pound for Pound

Rampart held its own at the last Bench Press Competition and snagged third place in the overall standings. We had a team of 37 officers compete and



The Rampart Bench Press Team aka The Rampart Gun Show!

32 of 'em brought home a medal! SLO **Patty Braendle** brought home the gold and broke a departmental record by puttin' up 200 lbs.! P2 **Chris Andrade**, P2 **Dorran Tran**, P2 **Romeo Tamparaong**, P3 **Clint Dona**, P2 **Angela Buck**, Sgt. **Rosemary Piazza**, Sgt. **Irma Kirsh**, P2 **Tami Flemming** and Lt. **Janet Penna** each put up the most weight to win the gold! Pound for pound, we'll eventually be the strongest

division in the city. 77th, watch your back, Rampart's comin'!

Reading Rainbow

SLO **Dawn Lewis** is no stranger to lending a helping hand. She's currently a volunteer in the Wonder of Reading program at Rosemont Elementary. Dawn



SLO Dawn Lewis with young reader Anthony Garcia.

worked with an eager-to-learn reader, Anthony Garcia, who has since improved his reading and social skills at school. Recently, Dawn bought Anthony a new t-shirt embroidered with the slogan "To inspire children the love of

reading," which he cheerfully read out loud!

Boosters

Ever wonder where Rampart gets some of the nifty things we utilize around the station? Well, thanks to the Rampart Boosters, we are supplied various items to assist us in our daily routines. The Boosters raise and donate money to Rampart to purchase a multi-

tude of goodies. They recently gave our Cot Room a much needed renovation, supplied Sure-Fire tactical lights for our shotguns, a computer for our Explorers, a digital camera for Vice and a hook and ram for the Gang Impact Team. The Boosters also give generous donations for various functions such as our Christmas Party, Baker to Vegas and the Police Unity Tour. What's next...a new shoe shine machine? (hint...hint)

Freedom Fighters

While we've been fightin' crime on the streets of Rampart, a few of our brothers were fighting to protect our country's freedom. P3 **Art Gamboa**, P3 **Ron Kitzmiller**, P2 **Todd Mangrum** and P2 **Enrique Hernandez** are all enlisted in our nation's Coast Guard. We kept in contact with the crew via e-mails



Rampart AM Watch welcomes home our contribution to the US Coast Guard.

and photos. Mangrum even mailed out a few souvenirs to a couple lucky Rampart coppers. We also had a few Marines deployed, P2 **Joe Torrence** and P2 **Bob Perez** were shipped out for Operation Freedom. P1 **Ed Palacios**, P3 **Dave Litaker**, P3 **Charlie Ciaey** and Sgt. II **Mike Daly** are still deployed and huntin' Bin Laden. Semper Fi.

Movers

We got a few wheelin' outta Rampart: Sgt. **Michelle Loomis** goes down, down, down south to 77th Div., P3 **Craig Dean** made D1 down in Southwest Div. Congrats, Bro. Clerk Typist **Gloria Gonzales-Funches** goes over to Hollenbeck, so get your DRs elsewhere. Congrats to P3 **Patty Braendle** who snagged the SLO spot at Rampart!

Piazza's Peddlers

The MS 150 Bike Ride to benefit Multiple Sclerosis had another showing from our infamous Piazza's Peddlers. The avid cyclists of Rampart Division comprised the team of officers who peddled from Huntington Beach Bay to San Diego Bay to raise money for multiple sclerosis. Led by Sgt. **Rosemary Piazza** and P3 **Craig Heredia**, the Laguna Armstrong wannabes rode over 150 miles down the coastline of Cali to show support for Rosemary and others diagnosed with M.S.

Eyes On

Normandie Park is a known haven for Playboy gangsters. 2G17 is the fearless duo of P2 **Steve Hernandez** and P2 **Edgar Hernandez**. A crew of Playboy

gang members decided to congregate at the picnic benches of a neighborhood park. Rampart SEU stealthfully monitored their criminal activity. Steve and P3 **Ma Zeigler** leaped tall buildings and fences to get "eyes on" our mob of gangsters. Within moments, a Playboy gangster reaches into a trash dumpster and pulls out a semi-automatic handgun. He then runs, jumps into a getaway car and speeds away. Rampart SEU officers

conducted a high risk traffic stop and apprehended an armed Playboy gang member, bunny ears and all.

Tactic Tip

During an operation consisting of a group of officers and a need to communicate, a tac frequency is a valuable tool. Try to steer clear of using only Simplex. A tac will allow for clearer communication. Yet, don't forget to switch it over to duplex when the caper goes sideways and you need more coppers!

Got News?

Got a good caper or info for the Blue Line? Let me know and I'll be sure to include it in the next issue. Good lookin' out!

PRDeez Notes

by Adam N. Broderick
Planning and Research Division

H & G's (hi's and goodbyes)

It seems promotions are baked fresh daily here. Newly crowned sergeant, **Stacey Kunch**, left PRD for the streets of Foothill in DP 10. By the time you read this, Stacey will be a seasoned veteran with 2+ months under his belt. Hey Stacey, is it time to go home yet?

Other Stuff

Carne asada, anyone? In October, PRD hosted a barbecue fundraiser in the rear parking lot of PAB. The weather was hot and the grilling pit was even hotter. Overall, the event was a success and we made some foldable cash money. Thank you to both sides of PRD. Without everyone's help, we'd still be broke. The profits will go to offset the cost of the

upcoming ho-ho-holiday party.

The sergeant exam is behind us by this printing. The cramming was fierce and the stress levels were high, but it's behind us now. Whew! If past success stories tell us anything, it's that we have great odds of passing. Now it's tick-tock, tick-tock, wait by the mailbox. (Does that rhyme?)

Mysteries (Not) Revealed

Here's a question posed to me by an officer from Olympia, Washington. Where did the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics originate? Do you happen to know? We couldn't track it down to an author, and the question is still hovering over us unanswered. If you think you know, give us a call or e-mail us. While you're at it, read it again. It's the first page of the Department Manual. The words are powerful, and it's quite a commitment we make.

Recruitment Drive

By the time you read this, Christmas will be nipping at our heels. At least three new researchers will be enjoying the holidays with their families and friends. It's never too late to have weekends off. The phone lines are open, call now, (213) 485-2633.

Until next time...C-ya (next year that is).

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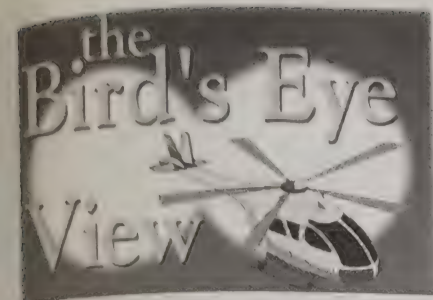
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by Jack H. Schonely
Air Support Division



Left to right: New TFO John Izzo, Captain Tom Runyen.
Photo by Glenn Grossman

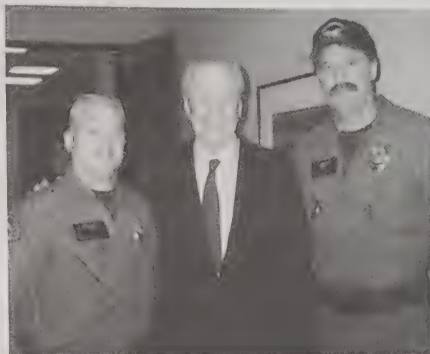


Left to right: Don Reuser, New TFO Dale Melton, Jaime Marin.
Photo by Glenn Grossman

Congratulations John, Dale, and Kevin. Welcome to Air Support Division.

Surprise Introduction

Recently Special Flights Pilot **Dan Hadfield** and TFO **Kevin Gallagher** were standing by on a surveillance at Santa Monica Airport when they noticed



Left to right: Kevin Gallagher, President Ford, Dan Hadfield.

some activity involving some secret service agents. Next thing you know, Dan and Kevin are being introduced to President Gerald Ford who was about to board a private jet. Luckily Dan had a camera and they were able to get a photo op with President Ford. It was an unexpected honor for the special flights crew.

ASD Tip of the Month

Many officers around the country including right here at the LAPD believe that once a helicopter is overhead that will "keep the suspect pinned down." This is a myth that has to be understood because it causes complacency.

The most important job on a perimeter containment is the one of officers at the corners and mid-block. Because so many officers believe the myth, they sometimes let down their guard and suspects move and even get away because of it. More and more suspects are not content to hide and wait for K-9 to find them. Many move inside the perimeter looking for a way to get out of the containment area. Some run out, others try and blend in and get out quietly.

If you are standing by on a perimeter, you should be outside of your vehicle behind cover watching and listening. You should control all ingress and egress to the perimeter. This is a vital part of a perimeter's success. Having an air crew overhead is important, but not the answer to all of the possibilities that can arise. Teamwork is the key to success. Always watch your six.



by Officer Leslie Mariscal
Central Traffic Division

Newcomers!

A special welcome from CTD to: Sgt. **R. Malachi**, P.O. **II C. Allen**, P.O. **II D. Odom**, P.O. **II J. Olivares**, P.O. **II E. Poss**, P.O. **II T. Ruiz**, P.O. **II+2 A. Simms**, P.O. **II+2 C. Dellinger**, P.O. **II+2 A. Hotchkiss**, P.O. **II+2 B. Kelly**, P.O. **II+2 T. Olsen**, P.O. **II+2 K. Snowden**.



Sgt. Kris Davis gets excited about his new bio suit (or is it Papa Smurf?)

Communications Supports Cops-4-Tots Charity Car Show Benefiting the Los Angeles Children's Hospital

On September 26 and 27, Communications Division held a "Cops for Tots" t-shirt day. A special thanks to Capt. **Smith** for allowing his employees to show their support to the cancer patients at Children's Hospital. Communications bought approximately

\$1,500 worth of shirts. Wow!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to a few of our fellow officers for receiving their longevity pins: Sgt. **Marcey** received his 20-year pin after only 22 years of service! Det. **Mapson** and Officer **Aguayo** also received their 20-year pins. Hang in there, guys, it's getting closer!

Motor Officer Carlos Sanchez

On September 16, 2003, at approximately 0856 hours, Central Traffic Division's own beloved Motor Officer **Carlos Sanchez**, who is assigned to the Community Safety Unit, was diligently enforcing traffic law in Northeast Division. He was observing an intersection near the city of Glendale border, at the request of a Northeast resident.

After observing an apparent violation, Carlos followed the violator, accelerating through third gear on and off camber uphill curve in the roadway. Unfortunately for Carlos, another citizen entered Carlos' intended line of travel just as his motorcycle made its way around the bend. Officer Sanchez made a heroic attempt at avoiding the vehicle that had happened to occupy his motorcycle's future space. His skids indicated he began impending rear wheel skids, then progressed to fully locked rear wheel skids, then began impending front wheel skids, then digressed to fully locked front wheel skids. Every motorcycle rider and collision investigator knows that panic then sets in for a split second before one's bodily functions either lock up or are set free. Inevitably, Carlos made solid impact with the roadway, causing his handlebars to sheer off the forks, and his wrists and thumbs to break in several places, as his death-grip forbade him to let loose his grasp.

Carlos continued to ride the upside-down motor to its unintended target, the left front fender of the vehicle in its path. He and the bike stopped abruptly (for an instant). However, inertia being put in play, Carlos continued up and over the vehicle after placing a humungous dent in the hood with his head. At that point, his left leg, acting as an improvised catapult, ejected his left motor

boot without the use of a boot jack, said boot traveling over quite some distance to come to rest upon the roof of a nearby residence, unscathed. Unfortunately for Sanchez, his left side did not fare as well. He broke his left knee, left hip, and caused several through-and-through fractures to his pelvis. He came to rest under a parked vehicle, after sustaining a couple of fractured ribs for good luck.

Glendale Police Department came to Carlos' rescue before any of his brother officers could reach him, and we are forever indebted to them for their immediate and outstanding response. He was transported to Huntington Memorial Hospital in order to put him back together. After several surgeries, he was transferred to the Madonna Childbirth ward of Good Sam Hospital for yet more surgeries.

So is there a good side to this story? Why, yes! As of this writing, Carlos is mending, learning to use his fingers, thumbs, and body again. He received no paralyzing injuries and is expected to recover sufficiently to have a pleasant retirement. Unfortunately for his fellow officers, this incident did not knock any sense into that twisted brain of his. He is still the same old, noisy Carlos. God bless you, brother, and may you be back on your feet soon.

If anyone was concerned, the driver of the impacted vehicle was not injured, nor arrested. The original violator was in the wind. No ticket...rats. (Submitted by Sgt. **Tavares**.)



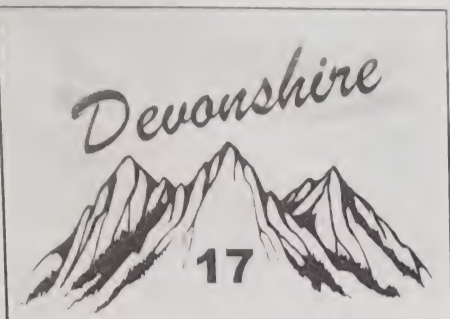
A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO OUR MOTORS AT CTD

by Bill Urrutia, Motor Class 9/96

In the glow of dawn they come,
Motors running helmets on.
A warm-up ride thru a tarmac
Not yet known,
Full of promise but with dangers
Still unknown.
Eighty hours of exercises have
Been shown,
Thru the mazes and the monster
They have gone.
Their faces brown from the dirt
And from the sun,
Some fell, others managed
To hang on.
With some bruises and sore muscles
Graduation's coming on,
But the learnin's not yet done.
As the students and instructors
Say farewell to the two weeks
That have gone,
Another class of motor cops
Is preparing to come on.
And the instructors
Will do it once again
Until that list too is done.
With deepest thanks to the motorcycle
Training Unit, you taught us much and
Taught us well.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Sgt. Rudy Santos
Devonshire Division

10851 Awards

Prowling the mean streets of Devonshire is a group of officers dedicated to taking wheels from those who took wheels from others. I'm talking about elite officers who can sniff out a stolen car from up to five miles away. Why, they even know when the car next to them at a stoplight had an oil change by the sound of the engine and the smell of the exhaust.

On October 8, 2003, during Watch 3 Roll Call, 22 officers received the prestigious "10851 Pin" along with the "Perpetual Plaque" from the California Highway Patrol and the Automobile Club of Southern California. This was a significant increase in both the number of officers receiving the award as well as the number of Grand Theft Auto arrests that were made from the last 12-month period. Seven of the officers were repeat offenders, in that they had already received this award last year and wanted another plaque to fill that empty space on their living room wall. The following officers were honored: Officers **Carlos Barrios**, #30694, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests including 2,300 cigars smoked; **Efren Corral**, #35472, 8 autos recovered and 8 arrests; **Craig Kojima**, #32559, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests; **Korina Kozub**, #35513, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests; **Brian Lafferty**, #34116, 7 autos recovered and 7 arrests;

William Lantz, #33251, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests; **Ginny Lukaszewski**, #36015, 7 autos recovered and 7 arrests; **John Macchiarella**, #35095, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests; **Adrian Moody**, #32295, 8 autos recovered and 8 arrests; **Ignacio Murillo**, #34879, 8 autos recovered and 8 arrests; **Scott Nunez**, #35381, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests; **Maricela Pacheco**, #36183, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests; **Patrick Rimkunas**, #35594, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests; **Philip Ruiz**, #31524, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests; **Haissam Sabra**, #34819, 8 autos recovered and 8 arrests; **Noah Stone**, #34372, 8 autos recovered and 8 arrests; **Luke Walden**, #34898, 7 autos recovered and 7 arrests;



Jason Wesley, #32420, 6 autos recovered and 6 arrests; **Ryan White**, #34506, 7 autos recovered and 7 arrests; **Timothy Wolleck**, #35468, 9 autos recovered and 9 arrests.

In the group picture we see the whole crew posing for a happy family photo. The other photo is of Officer **Michael Coogle** trading a cigar for his pin.

Shock and Awe

It has been a while since I wrote about a Community Relations office incident.

All the "real" stuff happens in patrol and detectives. However, I thought I would share something with our readers to prove that there is enough madness on the inside as can be found on the outside. Some of our readers may think that they already knew this, but where else does one get a "Hollywood" type occurrence outside of Hollywood Division? In Devonshire CRO, of course. On October 23, I responded to Paso Robles for an Explorer competition with the number one Explorer Unit in the LAPD, Devonshire Explorer Post 660. Headed by Officer **Sidney "The Force is Always With Me" Gonzalez** and Officer **Ingrid "I Can't Eat That, It's Fattening" Langrehr**, Devonshire Explorers are known throughout the state as one of the best posts around. This competition was almost like all the others. Though Devonshire did not take the first overall trophy, they were the best of all LAPD

posts. The hosting agency, the California Highway Patrol, decided to put on a Halloween dance for the "kids" so they could enjoy themselves. On the night of the party, I was in the hotel room watching "Scarface" while dry firing. Simpleminded that I am, this can keep me entertained for hours. That is when I noticed that something was not right. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw Officer Gonzalez dressing up as a "Star Wars" character while whistling the movie's tune. "Oh well," I thought, "this is innocent." As Sid continued to put on his costume, he looked at me and said, "I made it myself." And I thought I was weird because I used the diaper as a cape up to the age of 15. I continued watching TV and dry firing when there was a knock at the door. I made the mistake of answering the door. Standing there in full World War II era Captain America garb with a grin on his face was Post Advisor **George Stan**. Now I started to think something was not right. I quietly went back to the chair, sat down, and went back to watching TV.

A short while later, there was another knock at the door. I was afraid to answer it. Sid opened the door and in walked one of our Explorer sergeants dressed as a Girl Scout. It was then that I obtained the bed sheets, tied them together and draped them over the windowsill. Just as I was to exit our third story room, Sid said he and his merry friends were on their way out to a Halloween party. I sat alone in the hotel room with a blank stare thinking if I was the only sane person in this world. I needed to relax so after "Scarface" I drank a cup of coffee while watching CNN with the images of the war in Iraq and the California fires.

Seasons Greetings

In closing this year's last Blue Line article, I would like to wish all the personnel at Devonshire a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. For our officers of other faiths, may your holiday season be filled with happiness and prosperity.



by Larry Wehage
Newton Division

Christmas Party

The 2003 Christmas party will be held at the Whittier Radisson Hotel on Friday, December 19. Get your tickets early because we will sell out.

Ten Reasons to Work at Newton

- #10 - Captain is on DROP
- #9 - Can't get lost
- #8 - If you have to kick a door, it will break
- #7 - If you can spell, the detectives love you
- #6 - No uphill foot pursuits
- #5 - Tam's is open 24 hours

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- #4 - The alleys are a living experiment
- #3 - All dogs answer to, "Newton Elk"
- #2 - Backup is rollin'
- #1 - Even the screw-ups are accepted

Update on Jim Vena's Trip

Last month, I gave a brief account of **Jimmy Vena's** trip to Alaska and



Det. Jim Vena and retired Det. Richard Hoffman (rt.) on Richard's deck in Idaho.



Det. Joe Callin, retired Det. Pat Marshall, retired Chief Marty Pomeroy and Det. Jim Vena near Whitefish, Montana.

Montana. Well, this was not just any ordinary trek up yonder. Big Jim and his traveling bud, Det. **Joe Callin**, left the L.A. area riding a pair of 2003 Harley Road Kings. They ventured north to Idaho, eased into Montana, and pushed those iron ponies up to Alaska. They met up with retired Homicide Det. **Richard Hoffman** in Idaho and visited retired Chief **Marty Pomeroy** and Det. **Pat Marshall** near Whitefish, Montana. The trip was a 10,600 mile stress relief for the two motorcycle enthusiasts.

You Can Address Him as Sergeant Wehr

Shawn Wehr promoted to sergeant and transferred to Wilshire. We wish him well and expect to see him back home at Newton in a few years.

Remember When

We sometimes forget how times have changed over the years. Do you remember when hats were a must? How about the requirement to wear class A's until the temperature reached somewhere in the eighties and a teletype had to be sent from downtown, which allowed the wearing of a short-sleeved shirt. K-9s, helicopters, ASTROS, MDTs, were not part of the picture. You had to use your brain and have some luck on your side to catch the crooks. Let's not forget that wheel guns were (and still are) cool. Coffee and donuts were two of the four

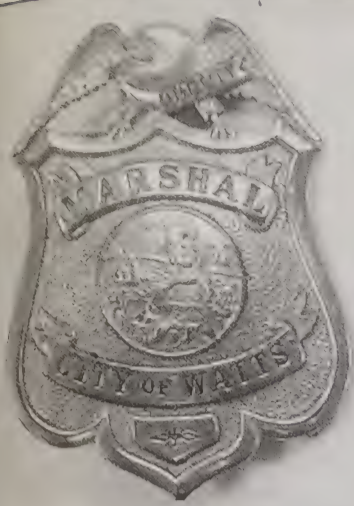
food groups. Oh well, 20 years from now officers will have instant I.D. scan, instant retina scan, instant DNA scan, and will drink only instant coffee.

Decentralized Training

Many of you have requested information about the decentralization of training, especially shooting and tactics training. A small bird whispered in my ear that this type of training may return soon. Obviously, concerns abound. However, you are all adults and know the rules. If we get this training returned to the Area level, Newton will be pushing to be the first Area to receive the training. Everyone knows how important it is to you.

Can You Believe It

While visiting Vietnam, a shopper noticed several American dog tags for sale at a small, street vendor's stall. The shopper, the wife of an American politician, rushed to tell her husband of her discovery. He advised her to purchase all of the dog tags, which she did. Some investigative work led them to SLO **Reginald Gay** at Newton. It seems that Reggie lost his tags while on patrol some three decades ago. He was very appreciative when the mementos were returned to him.



WATTS P.D.

by Shawn Massey
Southeast Division

Introduction

So, after endless nagging on my part, I've taken the helm of the Southeast column. Primarily I'll be recounting, with limited accuracy, the incidents, capers and misadventures of we who work Watts (and surrounding areas). In addition, I'll be spotlighting an individual from the division every month in an effort to shine light into their dark corners. So, if you have anything of interest, e-mail or advise when you can. Until then I'll be doing my own investigations.

Monthly Capers

This month's caper involves nearly all of W5 and most of W3. The scenario: A man was summoned to the residence of his girlfriend. He responded with what

he considered to be due promptness. She disagreed and refused to grant him entry. In fact, she deemed the moment appropriate for termination of the relationship. The man was unhappy. He was also intoxicated. He refused to vacate the yard and through the closed door, began a rather boisterous, one-sided argument with the woman. The woman phoned her local police. That's us. We responded with what we considered to be due promptness. (Note: I was a mere observer.) Seeing the agitated man in the front yard, the officers unleashed a barrage of verbal judo. The man surveyed the crowd of blue suits 30 feet away and on the other side of a fence and in a flurry, proved his kung fu to be far superior. In short, he called us dang liars (something like that) and in one brilliant moment, barricaded himself behind two stout garbage cans, put a box cutter to his neck and advised us of his desire to meet his Maker. In response, we looked at him. Sgt. Jovel suggested we have a plan and phoned the Watch Commander. We quickly huddled. The huddle went something like this: "Listen..." said Tony F. We promptly ignored him. "Wait..." said Mike L. We told him to mind his own business. "I know..." said Mel H. We told him to cover the rear. That was it. We were out of options. And all appeared lost until one of our college grad P-1s approached and suggested, of all things, a diversion.

"Good idea!" we cried, and then "Now, go watch the cars."

So several nondescript officers were dispatched to the rear, bean bag shotguns were deployed, a Taser was loaded,

warnings were given and an arrest team was formed. We were feeling pretty tactical. John A., prone in nearby bushes, attempted to gain the man's attention with a plethora of bird calls in the hope the man might surrender, utterly confused. It appeared to be working. That is, until the woman opened the door and voiced her displeasure. She had quite a vocabulary. Fearing she'd spoil our fragile plan, we beseeched her to go inside and close the door. We were ignored. To complicate matters, the man saw his chance for escape (or revenge) and still holding the box cutter moved toward the woman and the open door. Clear of his garbage can fortress, the man came before the sights of our bean bag shotguns. A round was fired. The man stumbled, hit in the torso and scurried toward his hideout. Bean bag rounds filled the air...harmlessly. The arrest team surged forward to take him into custody. The man ran away. The arrest team pursued the man into the backyard where he became the target of a Taser. It hit his foot. (Note: it was re-learned that the reloading of the Taser should be attempted with the safety on. Thanks, Dease.) Untased, the man fled for the back fence only to become entangled in the branches of a helpful tree.

A lone officer confronted the armed man in the shadows. He pleaded with the man to drop the steely blade. The man refused and drew the jagged edge toward his very own neck. Having no choice, the officer (heroic, competent or merely confused) utilized his baton to convince the man to drop the weapon. He was taken into custody without further incident. Several P-1s learned that the woman does not clean up after her dog. We had coffee.

Next month: SEU fires more warning shots.

Spotlight

(As far as you know, this is mostly true.) This month's spotlight is on my good friend, Herbert (Pat) Flaherty. Herbert was born in a small town in

West Virginia. The only son of carnival workers, Herbert was taught the fine art of Tilt O'Whirl operations. Ask him, he has a license. He also learned at an early age to shape his sideburns like James T. Kirk. It's a cultural thing, he's told me. But "Burnsy", as he was called in WV, suffered terribly at the hands of his peers. He promised himself that one day he'd be strong. So he came to L.A., joined the Department and began working the mean streets. He excelled. He got cocky. He was ridiculed. He quit and went back to West Virginia where he joined a local P.D. However, it wasn't long before he missed the sun-baked alleys of Watts and the opportunity to perfect his Spanish. He managed to

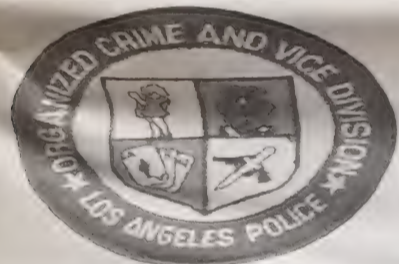


finagle his way back onto the Department, and we're glad to have him.

Additions/Subtractions

I managed to sneak into the Lambdin household and grab a quick photo of the Lambdin family as they sat unsuspectingly on the couch. In Mitch's arms is their new son, Demetrios, born on 10/26/03. I was able to shout a hearty "congratulations" as they chased me from their home. You're welcome.

Leaving Southeast is Sgt. O'Donnell for the mighty Rampart Division. Newly minted P-II Smith is enroute to West Valley. Gee, those wish lists really do work. Arriving is newly minted Sgt. Podesta from Pacific and P-III Haberman from Backgrounds.



by Officer D'Angelo
OCVD

"PORN" Got Your Attention:

Detective Steven Takeshita Appears Before the United States Senate Judiciary Committee

On Oct. 15, 2003, Det. III Steven Takeshita, the Officer-in-Charge of the Pornography Unit, Organized Crime and Vice Division, was requested to appear before the United States Senate Judiciary Committee by its Chairman, Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah).

Det. Takeshita appeared before the committee to advise them on the status of the pornography industry in the United States and to make recommendations, which would aid law enforcement in their investigation in the distribution of obscenity. Det. Takeshita and the rest of the Pornography Unit are all cross designated as federal law enforcement officers, enabling them to author federal warrants and to provide expertise in nationwide investigations.

The Pornography Section is the only specialized unit of its kind in the nation and is considered the national experts. The members of the unit have conducted investigations and testified in cases across the nation.

Commendable Dedication or Desperation?

36 Years

DII Russell Butz, #13505

35 Years

Mgmt. Analyst II Gail Bebee, #L8164

30 Years

DIII Thomas Boyle, #20259

DIII Keith Haight, #20205

DIII Franklin Margolis, #20161

DII Douglas Schmidt, #20172

One? Two? Three? OH BABY!

Our best wishes go out to Terrie Jones and her new family. After a very difficult pregnancy, Terrie and hubby



A "DOUBLE" congratulations goes out to newly appointed Det. Ishitani, #34227, who recently was promoted to detective in November. His newly appointed position also came with more responsibility than he thought. Ricky was also promoted to "Daddy." Ricky and his wife Esther have been blessed with a beautiful little girl. Her name is Keili Risa Ishitani. She was born on Oct. 31, 2003, at 10:56 a.m. She weighed 5.12 oz. and 19-1/2 inches in length. Ricky, we'll miss you and see you back soon. Good luck and best wishes to you and your new family.

Michael were blessed with two beautiful girls, Caitlin and Carmen, and one handsome boy Cameron Delgadillo. Stay tuned for a photo in our next issue.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

Winning With West Traffic



by Sgt. Stephanie Krajchir
West Traffic Division

Milestones

More babies. Congratulations to P2+2 **Cole Light** and his wife on the birth of their fifth child, Sean Robert, born Sept. 28, 2003, weighing in at 9 lbs, 8 oz. P1 **Robert Benedict** has another little girl, Lauren Michelle, 8 lbs, 10 oz. P3 **Dorrick Davis** has number two, little Brandon Jamal, born Oct.

30, 2003, at 6 lbs., 12 oz. And lastly P2+2 **Jeremy Duncan** has a little boy as another addition to the family.

Condolences To

P2+2 **Willie Durr** on the passing of his grandmother, P2+2 **Larry Johnson** on the passing of his father, P2 **Kevin Payne** on the passing of his mother-in-law, and P2 **David Chung** on the passing of his grandmother.

Commendations

P.O. 2+2 **Leonard Johnson** works one of the school cars in the Traffic Safety Unit. He does his job so well that he received an official commendation from the city, specifically Councilman Jack Weiss, congratulating him on one of his safety ideas which has been implemented at Carthay Center Elementary School. He was also commended for his extraordinary commit-

ment to the community. Well done, Leonard!

Great Arrests

P2+2 **Mike Toth** was working the impound detail one afternoon and stopped a violator for a cracked windshield. The driver presented the officer with all the required paperwork. However, one of those items (i.e., the driver's license) turned out to be of suspicious nature. The violator thought he was smart and gave Toth a paper "Valid Temporary Driver's License." Except that the temporary license wasn't issued by the DMV, even though it had "DMV" written all over it, and his license was nowhere near being valid. Nope, the temporary license was issued by someone else's personal computer, and the status was very suspended/withheld. Toth enlisted the help of our trusty Directed Enforcement Team (DET) members to assist him with the predicament. P2+2s **Tai Kingi**, **Doug Panameno**, **Pete Landelius**, and **Angelo Castro** took over the investiga-

tion and consulted DMV investigators in Sacramento and detectives. For the violator's efforts, instead of receiving a little citation, he was booked for 472 PC - forgery, a felony (for presenting a fraudulent document bearing an official seal). Great job, guys!

Watch 4 Motor Officer **Vinnie Stroway** was out one day just looking for a ticket. He got more than he bargained for when his wants/warrant check during a certain traffic stop returned as "code 37 vehicle." 6MQ132 you there? Hello? Is there a Code 4 yet? I think Vinnie was stunned for a bit, but he regained his composure and requested a backup. Two Hollywood patrol units and the air ship arrived in time as Vinnie took the suspect in custody. The man was ultimately booked for 1551.1 PC - fugitive, as the vehicle turned out to be a New Mexico stolen. Good obs!

Lastly

WTD's Xmas party is set for December 6. Happy holidays to all! ❖



by Jim Johnson
Juvenile Division

Hello from Juvenile Division. This month we had a very successful luncheon fundraiser at PAB and enjoyed lots of great spaghetti and salad. We would like to thank our station fund committee volunteers led by Det. **Maria Martinez** who worked so hard to make the lunch-



Det. Greg Stahr, Sgt. Jack Dillard, and Sgt. Al Green working hard dishing out the spaghetti.

con a success.

Juvenile Division would like to welcome Sgt. **Wayne Guillary**, transferring

in from Hollenbeck Division. Sgt. Guillary will be working in our DARE Section. We also want to welcome our two Police Student Workers, **Diana Barajas** and **Maria Ceja** who work so hard, and hope to see them in the academy soon. Congratulations to **Tim Morris** of DARE Section who will be leaving us to make PIII at South Traffic Division.

One of DARE's senior officers, **Glenn Bedford**, had major hip surgery



Fernando Ochoa, Rubin Holguin, and Sergio Ortiz ready to have a nice lunch together.

and we wish Glenn a speedy recovery. Glenn maintains a positive attitude while being rebuilt and plans to return sometime in 2004 and continue to work



Detective Lydia Dillard of DHD stopped by to have lunch with her husband Sgt. Jack Dillard, for a few more years.

Last month we reported that **Tina Bennett** was about to have a baby. Well, on September 23rd she had a beautiful baby girl, **Alexa Nichole**, 7 lbs., 8 oz. Congratulations to the proud parents, Tina and her husband **Amon Bennett**.

All of us at Juvenile would like to wish you a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving holiday. ❖

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Southern Tip

by Cumbia Cop
Harbor Division

Greetings

First, let me apologize for missing the last article, but I was out of the country enjoying myself on the beaches of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. I highly recommend to all of you who love traveling south of the border to check it out if you haven't already done so. Words cannot explain how wonderful it was, a most incredible vacation destination!

Cha-Cha-Changes

Here we go with the last two deployment changes from DP#10 and #11. Transfer #10 shows a few folks left us for new adventures. P-3 **Julie McInnis** is now working Central Division as a brand new Sgt. 1; Sgt. 1 **Brian Whitten** has gone to Professional Standards Bureau as a new Sgt. 2; P-3 **Doug "Diver Dan" Datria** is now at SOB; and brand new P-2 **Karla Godoy** left us to work Rampart Division.

Incoming were the following personnel: P-3 **Frank Trevino** from Newton Division is now home with us as a new Sgt. 1; a big welcome home to Sgt. 1 **Robert "Bobby" Heredia**, just fresh from Communications Division; incoming from Pacific Division was Sgt. 1 **Mark Lormans**; in from Training Division was Officer **Michael Sagendorf**; and moving up from Sgt. 1 to Sgt. 2 in Vice is **Danny "Gimme six or five units" Contreras**.

Transfer #11 kicks off with outgoing P-3 **Tarriel Hopper** making Sgt. 1 in Pacific Division; brand new P-2 **Michael Cassetta** is also in Pacific Division; brand new P-2 **Daniel Chilson** is scratching out T/C reports at Valley Traffic Division; brand new P-2 **John Kline** is working West L.A. Division; and brand new P-2 **Gregory Hoskins** from Metro, now a Sgt. 1 in the Harbor; coming from Communications Division was P-2 **Eric Good**; way up from Foothill Division was P-2 **William Manlove**; in from Wilshire Division was P-2 **John Carlyle**; and brand new P-1s **Ruben Cantu**, **Jose Padilla** and **Frank Ricci**

are fresh from the academy. Congrats, welcome, and good luck to all of you.

Babyland

Here we go again, the stork is working some mean overtime. Let's reach back to July 21, 2003, at about 7:46 a.m. when the world welcomed in baby girl **Jordan Lorraine Davis**, weighing in at 7 lbs., 1 oz., with a stretch of 10-1/4 inches long. Proud Mama Officer **Kari Davis** and Papa Jason are in seventh heaven with their pretty in pink bundle of joy.

On August 26, 2003, proud Mama Officer **Monica Moore** and Daddy Byron got their wonderful bundle of blue surprise at 3:12 a.m., with the arrival of **Marcus Anthony Moore**, weighing in at 8 lbs., 11 oz., and measuring 21 inches long.

On August 31, 2003, proud Mama Officer **Andrea Sanfillippo** and Papa **Paul** (S/E Div) got themselves a "two-fer" with the arrival of twin boys. **Alex** and **Ryan** weighed in at 5 lbs., 7 oz., and



Presenting Alex and Ryan Sanfillippo, catching some Z-Z-Z's.

20 inches long, and **Ryan Jacob** weighed in at 5 lbs., 6 oz., and 19 inches long.

Lastly, on September 1, 2003, proud Papa Officer **Matt Maffei** and Mama Tracy witnessed the arrival of their beautiful little girl, **Brooke Ashley Maffei**, who came into the world at 7:07 p.m. weighing 8 lbs., 4 oz., and measuring 20 inches long.

The LAPD/Harbor Division family keeps on growing, folks. Ain't it grand?! Congratulations to each and every one of you (Where are the cigars?).

In Closing

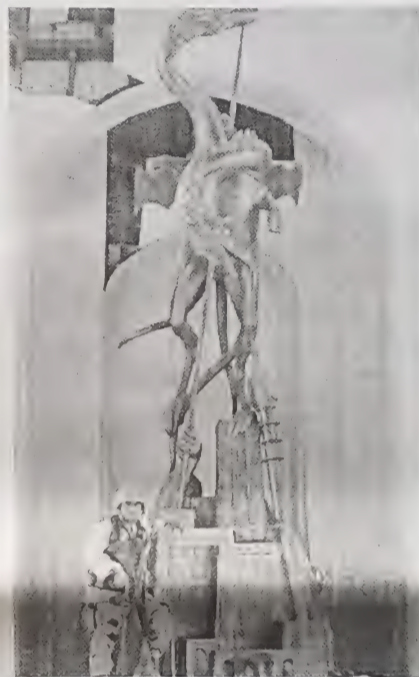
If I missed something, I'm open to suggestions, just let me know when you see me around. I wanna hear about your adventures, your proud moments, whatever you got. In the meantime, be safe, be sound, be smart, and keep on dancing.

The World Class Police Department LAPD RECRUITMENT RHETORIC

by Officer Mark L. Horton
Recruitment Section

Welcome

Red would like to extend a warm welcome to Sgt. **Ernst Cabriaes**, #27190, who comes from Foothill Division. Recruitment now has its full complement of officers and supervisors. We would also like to welcome Officer **Angel Vega**, #31334, who has returned back from Kuwait after a tour of duty with Saddam Hussein. "Uuuurraaaah." Officer Vega pictured, standing next to a statue near Saddam's palace in Tikrit.



So Long Farewell

So long to Officers **John Bunnell**, #34253, who left for training division at the ARTC, and Officer **Danny Chao**, #31965, who left for a P-III+1 position in Valley Traffic. Good luck in your future endeavors and thank you for all of



your hard work. Officers are seen here showing their fond affection for each other.

\$500 Incentive

You can get \$500 for choosing your future partner. Officers and Candidates must complete and sign a Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program card. To be eligible, your candidate must turn in the incentive card to the proctor when they take the written exam. You will receive your \$500 when the candidate is appointed to the Academy. Questions? Contact **Janesha Robinson** at (213) 847-9255.

What the?

Here are some of the interesting questions that candidates are asking:

Is there an LAPD Academy in Riverside?

Do you have a police job where you don't have to work in the sun?

I have a felony, but it was expunged, can I still apply?

Hey I really liked the movie SWAT, how do I join?

What's the difference between LAPD and the Sheriffs?

I'm on probation right now; does that exclude me from the hiring process?

How many felonies are you allowed to have?

Does a green card count as citizenship?

Congratulations

Major congratulations to Officer **Gavin Stieglitz**, #32907 and Anita who gave birth to a happy, healthy baby boy. **Kyle Christopher Stieglitz** was born on August 29, 2003 at 1835 hours, 8 lbs., 21 inches.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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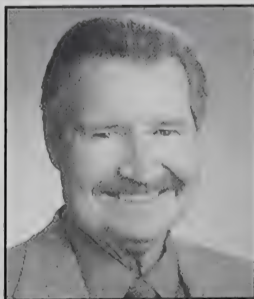
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by Officer Dennis J. DeNoi
Military Liaison Program

"Twice a Citizen"

On October 2, 2003, the Los Angeles Police Reserve foundation held its annual fundraiser, "Twice a Citizen" awards dinner at the Highlands Nightclub (home of the Kodak Theater). This event was established to recognize and honor citizens that have earned the "Twice a Citizen" title by volunteering their talents and time to serve the community as Los Angeles Police Reserve Officers. However, this year the foundation extended the honors to full time Los Angeles Police Officers that have earned this coveted title by their service in the United States Armed Forces Reserves. The event was well attended by the "who's who" of the Department, Los Angeles Police Protective League, Hollywood stars and the community at large. As always, the event Executive Producer, Bill York, did an outstanding job. I will not attempt to list all those present, but instead highlight the honorees. The foundation, keeping in tune with Chief Bratton's strong belief in inclusion, also recognized members of the Los Angeles Sheriffs Department. Since 9-11, the Department has seen well over 200 employees answer the call to active military service in all corners of the globe. The foundation was unable to salute all of our returning veterans



From left to right: BGen. Mike Teilman, U.S. Army, Lt.Col. Thomas Lasser (Gov.'s Office), U.S. Army, Sergeant Ernesto DeAlba, U.S. Marines, Lt.Col. Peter Zarcone, U.S. Marines, Lieutenant Justin Eisenberg, U.S. Navy, Petty Officer Bryant Wollen, USCG, MSgt. Tressa Gunnels, U.S. Army, Captain Joseph Viguera, U.S. Army.

and therefore those that were present symbolized the service and sacrifices made by all. The following honorees accepted plaques and certificates from both the foundation and the governor's office: **Ernesto De Alba**, Sergeant/USMC; **Peter Zarcone**, Lt. Colonel/USMC; **Justin Eisenberg**, Lieutenant/USN; Deputy **Bryant Wollen**, Petty Officer/USCG; Deputy **Tressa Gunnels**, Master Sergeant/Army, and **Joseph Viguera**, Captain/Army. On behalf of the whole Department, congratulations, thank you and welcome home to all those that have been policing the world.

Probation, Adjusted Completion Dates!

Recently, P.O. III **Heather Gahry**, Hollywood Area, stopped by my office with her current probationer to request assistance with an issue related to military service. During her visit, she casually asked about how probation time is adjusted for long-term military leave. I had not dealt with this issue as of yet, so I broke out the books, asked a few questions and then turned to the experts at Personnel Division. According to SPA II **Gloria Grube**, OIC, Sworn Personnel Services Section (formally known as Position Control), it is Department policy when an employee is on probation and is called to extended active duty (more than seven days), their remaining probation time is frozen at that point. Upon their return to duty with the Department, the employee resumes their

original remaining probationary period. For example, if an employee had two weeks remaining on probation at the time they were activated, they would still have two weeks remaining on probation when they returned to the Department for duty. This holds true no matter how long or short the periods of military service are. After a review of several cases, it was determined that some adjusted end of probation dates were improperly calculated or reported. The cases varied from a few days to several months. Personnel Division and the division involved took immediate action to rectify the situation. *If you returned from military service and received an adjusted end of probation date, please review it with your Field Training Officer, Field Training Officer Coordinator and timekeeper to ensure your dates were properly adjusted. If further assistance is necessary, please contact me with all known facts.*

"A Grateful Nation" – As reported in a recent article in the Camp Pendleton base paper, President George W. Bush addressed Marines at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar about the many sacrifices involved in today's military. The crowd cheered with approval as Bush expressed his thanks for service members' sacrifices. The president stated, "As our nation confronts great challenges, we rely, as always, on the goodness and courage of the men and women of our military." He reminded them that there is still much work ahead in the war on terrorism. "I'm honored to be in the presence of the men and women who wear our nation's uniforms," said Bush. Not only did Bush praise service members, he took the time to acknowledge military family members. "Military families make tremendous sacrifices for America, and our nation is grateful for your service to our country," Bush said. In another base paper, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld told

service members at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, only two options faced the United States in its war on terror: fight the terrorists where they live today, or fight them in America tomorrow. He compared the unconventional dangers threatening the safety and security of Americans today, to the totalitarian regimes the World War II generation confronted. "Like the 'greatest generation' that saved the world from tyranny of their time, your generation has been called to greatness as well," Rumsfeld said. Rumsfeld took questions from the service members and addressed the issues involving the high demand that has been placed on today's reserve components. He said the Joint Chiefs are working on proposals to "rebalance" the mix between active duty and reserve duty components. In reference to the current reserve deployment and redeployment situation, he said, "I don't want to call it ugly, but rather imperfect." He went on to say that in some cases the reserves and guard were getting as little as five days notice for a call-up.

Rumsfeld said, "Now that's just not right. It's not fair to the families, it's not fair to reservist and it's not fair to their employers." "So we've got to fix that." At this time the Department is down to just under 100 employees on active military service, but that number could shoot back up at any time. If you are in the military Reserves, you should put your personal affairs in order, keep your family abreast of military and Department benefits and ensure they have the necessary contact numbers. These articles address different issues that have affected employees serving in the Reserves and their families. It would be advisable to save the various articles for future reference. Advise your loved ones, your executor and your Department supervisor of the services available through the Military Liaison Program.

In closing, remember to keep your timekeeper informed of any change in your duty status and follow up to ensure the changes are made. We are currently working on some interesting cases that will have effects Department-wide, so please read next month's article. Semper Fi, DJD

WANTED: Photographs and video clips of LAPD employees that have been activated during this crisis or others dating back to the first Gulf War. The photographs, videos and other material will be used in a future video of our employees serving our nation around the world in times of national crises.

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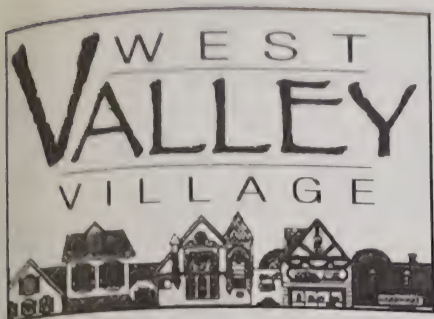
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by Thomas A. Mason
West Valley Division

New B-1s

Officer **James Jester** is the proud parent of a new baby boy who was born on October 24, 2003. Officer **Jenny Potts** is the proud mom of twins, one of each, a boy and a girl, who were born on November 2, 2003. PSR **Jaqui McAndrews** is the proud new mom of a baby boy, Michael McAndrews. More importantly, Jaqui was named as area employee of the quarter for her extraordinary duties in the Administrative Unit and her relentless efforts as the West Valley Area Station Fund Coordinator. Congratulations to each of you and happy holidays with your newest family member.

Employees of the Quarter

In addition to Jaqui, the other recipients were Officer III **Todd Booth** and the combo dual package of Dets. **Michelle Blizzard** and **Susan Calderou**. All four are truly deserving of this recognition and are some of West Valley's best.

Captains' Barbecue

On October 1, Capt. III **James H. Cansler** and Capt. I **Jeri Weinstein** sponsored an all-out feast for the employees of West Valley Area. It was a rousing success and truly appreciated by

the folks who work for these two exceptional leaders. We will be looking forward to next year's "surf and turf" captain-sponsored barbecue.

A New Watch

Due to overwhelming demand and a captain who thinks outside the box, a new watch was added to West Valley. Watch 4 allows for those people who enjoy sleeping in and being around for "last call."

Front Page News

To my amazement, I opened my *Daily News* and there was Officer III **Troy Collins**. There was a great story about Troy's interest and involvement with Sumo style wrestling. According to the story, Troy is a successful Sumo wrestler and competes on a regular basis. He, however, is somewhat modest and does not adorn the "mawashi" and prefers to wear Under Armour.

West Valley's New Station

The new station's progress is coming along quite well. It is expected to open in December, 2004. The captains have asked anyone who is interested in being part of yearbook committee regarding the new and old station to contact the area office.

Fire

The Santa Ana (Devil) winds took a toll on several people and caused massive destruction. Several of West Valley's Simi Valley and Stevenson Ranch employees were suddenly placed into peril when the firestorm approached their homes. Fortunately, no one lost their homes or property. The officers who responded for evacuation, traffic control and working the command post did an outstanding job with the limited safety equipment provided to them.

North Hollywood

by Angie Hougen
North Hollywood Division

Thanks to All Who Have Helped Doug Bowler!

On Saturday, October 25, Officer **Doug Bowler** lost his home in the San Bernardino fires. All he was able to save was a couple of days of clothing. Since then, our folks have pitched in to help out, and we have several events planned for the future. We also want to thank the officers of Hollywood Division who contributed over \$300 in the first week after the fire. We are very grateful for everyone's support.

The Holiday Season is Upon Us!

December is always a busy month for North Hollywood. For those of you who are new, as well as everyone who calls North Hollywood home, there are several activities we all look forward

to. First and foremost, the holiday party is Friday, December 5th. It will be held at the Airtel Hotel in Van Nuys. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased in the captain's office. The planning committee is busy bringing together some great prizes for the annual party, and it's always well attended!

Many of us adopt a child from ARC, the Association for Retarded Citizens. Last year, 114 kids wrote down their holiday wishes on cards, which were taken by officers in the division. After all the shopping and wrapping, many of us attend their holiday celebration. This year's party will be at the Westlake School on Saturday, December 20, from 11:00 to 3:00 p.m. If anyone is interested in adopting an ARC kid, see **Esther Niell** in Detectives.

In addition, we also sponsor several Head Start schools and do a holiday caravan on Friday, December 19. We give away gifts to over 400 local kids. The Jr. DAP party will be at the station on Saturday, December 13. Our PALS group provides the toys for the DAPS, and the community brings in the toys for our Head Start schools. All North Hollywood personnel are invited to be part of any or all of the holiday activities. It's a great way to enjoy some holiday cheer.

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SPORTS BEAT

Sports Beat is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. For information about submissions to Sports Beat, please call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

LAPRAAC Sports Roundup

by Lew Snow, Sports Beat Editor

We bid a fond farewell to **Tony Adler**, who has been transferred from CED to West L.A. Following retirement of **Larry Moore** (succeeded the legendary **Bob Burke** who pioneered the position in 1968), in early 1995, Tony became the third Athletic Director in LAPD history.

Tony's efforts and determined spirit were key to the sports program, California and World Police and Fire Games, and the annual LAPRAAC Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, the largest law enforcement athletic event in the nation.

LAPRAAC will be filling the Athletic Director vacancy as soon as possible, at our press deadline there was no news on a successor for the position.

Our best wishes to Tony in his new assignment. He will be sorely missed.

Speaking of Changes

Congratulations to **Debbie DeMond** who has been named LAPRAAC Athletic Secretary, she will be filling the

vacancy left by **Agnes Miranda**. Debbie may be a familiar face to some in that she has worked in the café for some five years. She is the other Debbie in the Café. She can be reached at (323) 221-5222, ext. 221. Please note that Debbie Chamberlain continues to be LAPRAAC's Food and Beverage Manager.

Basketball Season Underway

The 2003-'04 intradepartmental basketball season is now underway under the direction of **Brenda Crump** and **Charles Perry**. A preseason evaluation tournament took place in mid-November to place teams in leagues of like skill levels.

League play culminates in late January/early February with 2002-'03 Intradepartmental Champion **Parker Center** looking to defend its title in the Captain Al Nelson Tournament.

We'll have more information on which teams made the cut for what leagues in our next issue. For up-to-date

basketball scheduling information, call the LAPD Sports Beat Wins Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800 or call Athletic Secretary **Debbie DeMond** at (323) 221-5222, ext. 221.

In the Swim

In full training mode for the 2004 Police and Fire Games retiree **Bob McMeekin** handily won a gold medal in the 50-yard freestyle at the San Bernardino Senior Olympics in October. McMeekin, who swims in the 65+ age group, has issued a challenge to his fellow "dinosaurs" (his term, not mine!) to join him in Stockton in summer 2004.

Holiday Cheer, Part I

The LAPRAAC Academy stores are in place to shop for the holidays. A large line of specialty items in the gift shop, include tree ornaments, toys for the children, has been added to the usual mix of law enforcement related items that make excellent presents for the whole family. Whether a new Sam Browne, jacket, baseball cap, shirt or holiday item, there's something for everyone's tastes at the Elysian Park Academy or Recruit Training Center stores. For more details,

call (323) 221-5222 and follow the prompts for store information.

Holiday Cheer, Part 2

On behalf of LAPRAAC Board of Directors, President **Jim Voge**, General Manager **Irma Perez**, the LAPRAAC Staff and your humble scribe, our best wishes to all our readers for a joyous holiday season. It's hard to believe but next month marks the start of Sports Beat's 15th year in *The Thin Blue Line*. Our thanks go to the Los Angeles Police Protective League and its Board of Directors, Editor **Paul Weber** and Assistant Editor **Helen McVay** for being such gracious and generous hosts over the last decade and a half.

We Welcome Your Articles

Planning a sports event or have an upcoming one? Submitting an article for *Sports Beat* is the best way to get info out to a wide range of active and retired department personnel. To be included we must receive articles—via fax or e-mail—no less than three days before the end of current month, by December 28 for February, January 28 for March, etc.

BREAKING NEWS

Ret. Athletic Director Larry Moore Critically Hurt in Motorcycle Accident

by Lew Snow, Sports Beat Editor

At our press deadline retired LAPD Athletic Director **Larry Moore** remains hospitalized in critical condition as result of a tragic motorcycle accident on Thursday morning, November 6, just outside Primm, NV.

Moore, who spent almost half of his 33-year career as a motor officer, was on his way home to Rancho Mirage from Las Vegas when he lost control of his motor after crossing over railroad tracks.

His daughter **Kelly Soper** (Communications Division) reports he is on life support and in a medically-induced coma to help his body recover from massive injuries.

The co-founder of the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay and creator of the TCA (Toughest Cop Alive) competition was discovered by passersby and airlifted to the trauma center at University Hospital in Las Vegas. His family is asking LAPD personnel to keep Larry in their thoughts and prayers as he contin-

ues to fight for his life.

At this time please do not call the hospital, Protective League office or LAPRAAC administrative office seeking details on his condition. Updated information can be obtained by accessing the LAPRAAC and Baker to Vegas Relay websites (www.lapraac.com and www.bakervegas.com) or by calling the LAPRAAC Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222 ext. 800. The family is also requesting well-wishers to withhold cards and flowers until Larry's condition improves.



Larry Moore (left) in 1980 with predecessor **Bob Burke**.

LAPD CENTURION FOOTBALL 2004 TRYOUTS

The LAPD Centurion Football Team is looking for dedicated officers to join our West Coast championship team.

Tryouts will be held for the 2004 football season at:

West Los Angeles College football field,

9000 Overland Ave., Culver City, 90230

Saturdays, December 6 and 13, 0930 hours

Please wear workout clothes and bring football cleats and Department I.D. to tryouts. For more information, contact Det. Donald Payne at Southwest Detective Division, (213) 485-6795 or (213) 968-7155. ♦

LAPD Centurion Football 2004 Cheerleader Tryouts

The LAPD Centurions are looking for dedicated personnel to join our cheerleading squad in supporting our West Coast championship team.

Along with cheering and dancing, the Centurion Cheerleaders act as ambassadors for the team at fundraising events, home and away games.

All city employees are welcome.

Tryouts will be held for the 2004 football season at:

West Los Angeles College football field,

9000 Overland Ave., Culver city 90230

Saturdays, December 6 and 13, 0930 hours

Please wear workout clothes and bring city I.D. to tryouts. For more information, contact Det. Sharlene Johnson at Wilshire Detective Division, (213) 847-3994 or (310) 915-3931. ♦

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The Carl Lewis International Track and Field Camp: Racing to Serve

by F. Finley McRae

LOS ANGELES—Since its creation in 2001, the Carl Lewis International Track & Field Camp and Festival,

named for the extraordinary athlete and dedicated to family fitness and scholastic excellence, has been striding toward touching larger numbers of inner city youth.

A significant leap in its development was recorded Saturday, October 25, 2003, as approximately 200 youth, ranging from 10 to 17, many of them for the first time, ran, leaped and jumped at one of the nation's premier collegiate sports facilities: the Cromwell Track Field and the Katherine B. Loker Stadium of the University of Southern California. They also received instructions in two hours of track and field clinics conducted by Ronald Alice, a world-respected coach and eight of his staff as well.



Peacemakers Cop Medals at Cowboy Match

by Larry Mudgett

Three department shooters competed in the Panorama Sportsman Club monthly Cowboy Action Shooting match on July 20, each finishing near the top of their class.

Stacy Ewing and Larry Mudgett participated in the Duelist Class (shooter engages all pistol targets by operating and shooting the pistols with only one hand) and Brad Mossie competed in the Gunfighter Class (shooter holds one pistol in each hand at the same time and fires by alternating shots). Each officer used an 1873 rifle and a Winchester 1897 shotgun or double barrel shotgun. All pistols used in the match are single action revolvers similar to those used in the late 19th century. Targets are usually made of steel allowing spectators to easily see hits and misses.

Ewing placed first in the ladies duelist category—only two women who shot

two-handed finished ahead of her. Mudgett took third in the men's duelist category and 13th overall (60 shooters competed and 43 shot in a two-handed category). Mossie won first place in his category and took 12th overall.



Officer Brad Mossie, in full cowboy gear, took honors as top gunfighter.

After the match, shooters enjoyed a barbecue hosted by the Panorama Sportsman Club. Visitors are welcome to cowboy shooting events—contestants must "dress the part" but it's optional for spectators. Anyone interested in seeing for themselves why Cowboy Action Shooting is the fastest growing shooting sport in the nation are always welcome to come out and watch a match. Events are held on the third Sunday of each month and guests must bring eye and ear protection.

For more information on the sport, or directions to an upcoming event, contact Larry Mudgett at (818) 832-7529 or visit www.psc-northfield.org.

Supported by Mayor James Hahn, Cardinal Roger Mahony, Eighth District Councilman Bernard Parks, the Los Angeles Police Protective League, Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca, the Sheriff's Youth Foundation and the County Fire Department, the clinics also featured the event's centerpiece: the awards to outstanding Los Angeles youth. Alice was also honored with the Carl Lewis Distinguished Service Award for his 40 years of coaching.

Six Olympians: 800 meter ironman Johnny Gray, 1996 silver medallist Inger Miller, 1992 high jump Kim Carter, sprinters Steven Lewis and Jeff Williams and 1996 800-meter medallist Joaquim Cruz spoke to the youth. Aware that many of the participants match wits daily with drug kingpins and neighborhood pressure, they urged them to set

lofty goals, concentrate with the utmost consistency and work toward their objectives, no matter how much time and discipline success requires of them.

LAPPL stated that: "We've been involved with these kinds of youth programs for a long time and know their value, the more kids we can persuade to participate, the fewer we will see involved in gang membership and drug use and sales."

Carl Lewis, speaking after the event, said, "We want to raise excitement in larger numbers of kids by using athletics." If motivated, he believes, some of the teens that the event and the foundation impact may well become high achievers in track and field. But ultimately, Lewis said, the entire society, not just teens, benefits when they are engaged in sports.

CARL LEWIS

www.carllewis.com

INTERNATIONAL TRACK & FIELD CAMP AND FESTIVAL

November 4, 2003

Los Angeles Police Protective League
1308 West 8th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Members of the LAPPL:

The Carl Lewis International Track & Field Camp and Festival, in association with the Carl Lewis Foundation, has a mission to empower youth and families through track & field activities, and to enhance their life condition through wellness and education. The Camp and Festival had a priority this year to include three specific groups who are on the front lines every day: the sheriffs across the nation, the firefighters across the nation, and of course, the police officers across the nation.

It was good to see the LAPPL supporting of the 2003 Camp and Festival, including having members in attendance at the Camp and Festival to encourage our youth, as well as providing giveaway items to the youth participants in the Camp and Festival Youth Track & Field Clinic, such as LAPPL visors, frisbees, a pin, and a Child Identification Kit, and the always important gift bags.

While there is still a lot work to be done to keep our communities strong, I am confident that our "front line" groups, including the LAPPL, will continue to secure the safety of individuals in our community, and also support activities designed to promote youth, families, education, wellness and fitness. I thank you for supporting the Camp and Festival, and look forward to working with you again in the future.

Sincerely,

Carl Lewis

More Sports Beat on next page

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SPORTS BEAT

It's a "Sweet 16th" Straight for 77th's Power Pigs at Fall Bench Press Classic

All dressed up in their sweaty best, the hogs and sows of 77th Street descended upon the Elysian Park Academy on Oct. 3 for what they hoped would be their "sweet 16 party." Just after the clank of the last bar hitting the stand was heard, it became official—despite stiff competition from Southeast and Rampart the Power Pigs had won their 16th consecutive intradepartmental bench press contest.

"A battle of tactics, not brawn," Paul von Lutzow, coach of the Power Pigs,

oinked in a rather detailed *Los Angeles Times* article published the day after the match. "It's getting the right people into the right spots that racks up the points." The win at the Fall Bench Press Contest means teams coached by the Sultan of Swine have won 21 out of the last 22 events (including five as Rampart's coach).

The heavy turnout of Southeast and Fort Apache lifters (69 entries) made the match a nail-biter but wasn't enough to carve up the ham and bacon. Nearly 150

lifters took to the bench, nearly 25% more than the spring event. Three of every eight lifters were women, a new participation record, and an amazing five of every six competitors called Southeast, Rampart or 77th Street home.

While Southeast came within 44 points of the Power Pigs in the spring, the winning margin this time around was a more comfortable 73, with Rampart only seven points behind the Southies.

Biggest news of the contest also involved the Power Pigs—**Alberto Franco** set a record for the best lift by any LAPD athlete with an astounding 550 lbs. He beat his old record by 25 lbs. and competing for the first time in the age 30-39, 242-1/2 lb. group, Franco topped the mark in that category by an even hundred pounds!

Six other records were also set in the contest. Among the male competitors, **Matthew Okubo** lifted 280 lbs. to once again better his own record by 15 lbs. in the age 20-29, 123-1/2 lb. group, and retiree **Jack Rabinowitz's** press of 250 lbs. set a record in the age 60+, 220-1/4 lb. group.

Four female records fell by the wayside: **Maggie Sherman's** lift of 160 lbs. beat her old mark by 10 lbs. in the age 20-29, 181-3/4 lb. group; **Patricia Braendle** pressed 200 lbs. to set a new record by 40 lbs. in the age 30-39, 165-1/4 lb. category; **Jane Russon** tied the top of 125 lbs. in the age 40-49, 198-1/4 lb. group; and **Janet Penna** benched 65 lbs. to set the record in the age 50-59, 198-1/4 lb. category.

BENCH PRESS RESULTS

WOMEN AGE 20-29 WEIGHT

97 - 105-3/4
105-3/4 - 114-1/2
114-1/2 - 123-1/2
123-1/2 - 132-1/4
132-1/4 - 148-1/2
148-1/2 - 165-1/4
181-3/4 - 198-1/4

FIRST PLACE

Adriana De Los Santos (77th) 65#
Tiffany Tingirides (77th) 90#
Leila Ryan (77th) 130#
Sandra Sanchez (77th) 120#
Sharon Brady (SE) 85#
Glorycella DeLaSierra (SE) 90#
Maggie Sherman (77th) 160#

SECOND PLACE

Christy Adriano-Tagle (Rpt) 70#
Susanne Gras (CED) 100#
Brenda Castro (Rpt) 80#
Kristy Chavarria (77th) 85#

MEN AGE 30-39 WEIGHT

123-1/2 - 132-1/4
132-1/4 - 148-1/2
148-1/2 - 165-1/4
165-1/2 - 181-3/4
181-3/4 - 198-1/4
198-1/4 - 220-1/4
220-1/4 - 242-1/2
242-1/2 - 275-1/4

FIRST PLACE

Mario Adame (SE) 190#
Dorran Tran (Rpt) 225#
James Sterling (SE) 225#
Romeo Tamparon (Rpt) 305#
Andrew Paredes (77th) 340#
Cornel Sandoz (77th) 380#
Otis Swift (SE) 330#
Alberto Franco (77th) 550#

SECOND PLACE

Paul Inabu (OCVD) 285#
Humberto Tovar (Rpt) 305#
Darryl McGregor (77th) 375#
Adam Moore (77th) 315#
Carlos Valdez (77th) 300#

WOMEN AGE 39-39 WEIGHT

97 - 105-3/4
105-3/4 - 114-1/2
114-1/2 - 123-1/2
123-1/2 - 132-1/4
132-1/4 - 148-1/2
148-1/2 - 165-1/4
165-1/2 - 181-3/4
181-3/4 - 198-1/4
198-1/4 - 220-1/4

FIRST PLACE

Angela Buck (Rpt) 65#
Jennifer Thomas (SE) 75#
Rosemary Piazza (Rpt) 55#
Irma Krish (Rpt) 85#
Danielle Melton (SE) 150#
Ingrid Braun (IAG) 110#
Patricia Braendle (Rpt) 200#
Tamara Flemming (Rpt) 130#
"Name Withheld" (SE) 90#

SECOND PLACE

Anna Rivera (SE) 85#
Iris Santin (Rpt) 115#
Roshon Thornton (SE) 105#
Irene Kohler (Rpt) 130#
Kathy Mayer (SE) 90#

MEN AGE 40-49 WEIGHT

132-1/4 - 148-1/2
148-1/2 - 165-1/4
165-1/2 - 181-3/4
181-3/4 - 198-1/4
198-1/4 - 220-1/4
220-1/4 - 242-1/2
242-1/2 - 275-1/4
Over 275-1/4

FIRST PLACE

Perry Griffith (77th) 225#
Michael Ozaki (OCVD) 300#
Lou Leiker (SE) 290#
Sam Arase (Pers'l) 390#
Joe Ramirez (Dev) 350#
Owen Mills (77th) 380#
Victor Ross (SE) 345#
Morris Batts (77th) 425#

SECOND PLACE

Mark Anderson (Rpt) 230#
Jerry Code (Nwtn) 280#
Joseph Sanchez (Rpt) 345#
Robert Bermudez (77th) 330#
Arnold Porter (77th) 300#
Ricky Johnson (SE) 275#

WOMEN AGE 40-49 WEIGHT

105-3/4 - 114-1/2
123-1/2 - 132-1/4
132-1/4 - 148-1/2
165-1/4 - 181-3/4
198-1/4 - 220-1/4
220-1/4 - 243-1/2

FIRST PLACE

Fanita Kuljis (77th) 65#
Susan Leskera (SE) 130#
Julia Peat (77th) 135#
Debbie Luker (77th) 110#
Jane Russon (77th) 125#
Maria Marquez (77th) 85#

SECOND PLACE

Kathy Meek (SE) 65#
Lorena Alcaraz (SE) 85#
Evangelyn Nathan (77th) 105#
"Name Withheld" (SE) 75#

WOMEN AGE 50-59 WEIGHT

148-1/2 - 165-1/4
198-1/4 - 220-1/4

FIRST PLACE

Sandra Magdelano (SE) 60#
Janet Penna (Rpt) 65#

SECOND PLACE

MEN AGE 20-29 WEIGHT

123-1/2 - 132-1/4
132-1/4 - 148-1/2
148-1/2 - 165-1/4
165-1/2 - 181-3/4
181-3/4 - 198-1/4
198-1/4 - 220-1/4
220-1/4 - 242-1/2
242-1/2 - 275-1/4
Over 275-1/4

FIRST PLACE

Matthew Okubo (SE) 285#
Steve Beumer (Fthl) 260#
Jorge Gonzalez (77th) 225#
Christopher Andrade (Rpt) 275#
Alfonso Alfaro (77th) 250#
Joe Seida (Fthl) 340#
Mike Leese (77th) 250#
Daniel Suarez (77th) 275#
Jamal Dawoudi (77th) 300#

SECOND PLACE

Jesus Carrillo (77th) 170#
Daniel Bunch (Rpt) 230#
James Martinez (Rpt) 165#
Gabriel Gonzales (77th) 245#
Jonathan Kincaid (SE) 250#
Joe Goosby (77th) 320#

TEAM RESULTS

FIRST	77TH STREET	300 POINTS	38 TEAM MEMBERS
SECOND	SOUTHEAST	227 POINTS	32 TEAM MEMBERS
THIRD	RAMPART	220 POINTS	37 TEAM MEMBERS
FOURTH	77TH STREET #2	80 POINTS	18 TEAM MEMBERS
FIFTH	RETIRED	30 POINTS	3 TEAM MEMBERS

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BENCH PRESS RESULTS (cont'd)

INTRA-DEPARTMENT BENCH PRESS RECORDS

MEN CLASS	AGE 20-29	AGE 30-39	AGE 40-49	AGE 50-59	AGE 60+
Under 123-1/2	Tran Khoa 150	Ted Williams 155			
123-1/2 - 132-1/4	MATT OKUBO 285	Gary Koba 220	Ron Hodges 230	Dean De Paola 170	
132-1/4 - 148-1/2	Joe Johnson 320	Nelson Fong 295, Lee Sands 295	Herbert Chang 260	Joe Curreri 255	
148-1/2 - 165-1/4	Ben Tran 360	Kerry Anderson 350, Mike Callan 350	Ken Montague 325	Mark Conta 260	Charles McTaggart 210
165-1/4 - 181-3/4	Andre Louis 385	Andre Louis 395	Lou Leiker 345	Torn Vigen 365	Sam Colella 245
181-3/4 - 198-1/4	Terry Cirre 420	Mark Allen 420	George Caulford 430	Torn Vigen 365	Sam Colella 265
198-1/4 - 220-1/4	Alberto Franco 475	Greg Davidson 485	Ken Crawford 430	Ruben Holguin 315, Jim Williamson 315, Johnny Jones 315	Sam Colella 285
220-1/4 - 242-1/2	Alberto Franco 525	Todd Waymire 455	Gary Romo 420	Gary Romo 390	JACK RABINOWITZ 250
242-1/2 - 275-1/2	Ed Huston 470	ALBERTO FRANCO 550	Mo Batts 445	Gary Thomas 440	Rex Shields 340
Over 275-1/2	Bryan Hand 415	John Valdez 420	Mo Batts 450	Ray Hernandez 300	Ron Meade 350

WOMEN CLASS	AGE 20-29	AGE 30-39	AGE 40-49	AGE 50+
Under 97 lbs.		Celia Komathy 85		
97 - 105-3/4	Kristin Kolenda 100	Kristin Kolenda 95, Teresa Evans 95	Maria Tomas 75	
105-3/4 - 114-1/2	Nubia Avila 100	Hsin Lo 120	Susan Fisher 90	
114-1/2 - 123-1/2	Jennifer Grasso 135	Jill Reinhold 145	Lynda Matarazzo 110	
123-1/2 - 132-1/4	Jennifer Grasso 155	Heather Gageby 160	Teresa Akune 145	
132-1/4 - 148-1/2	Cassandra Britt-Nickerson 170	Lisa Wernli 190	Teresa Akune 170	
148-1/2 - 165-1/4	Patricia Braendle 190, Melissa New 190	Martha Moran 175	Jami Reed 160, Martha Moran 160	Charlotte Smith 85
165-1/4 - 181-3/4	Shannon Paulson 145, Maggie Sherman 145	PATRICIA BRAENDLE 200	Martha Moran 150	Charlotte Smith 80
181-3/4 - 198-1/4	MAGGIE SHERMAN 160	Dena Kendrick 135	Hilda Kendrick 185	Janet Penna 75
198-1/4 - 220-1/4	Erika Spence 130	Andrea Grossman 110, Bridget Pickett 110	Marcella Winn 125, JANE RUSSON 125	JANET PENNA 65
220-1/4 - 242-1/2		Debbie Gourman 90		Brenda Gordon 145

Records set or tied at the October 2003 competition indicated in bold caps.

LAPD BENCH PRESS CHAMPIONS

1985-2003	
October 2003	77th Street Division
May 2003	77th Street Division
October 2002	77th Street Division
March 2002	77th Street Division
October 2001	77th Street Division
March 2001	77th Street Division
November 2000	77th Street Division
June 2000	77th Street Division
October 1999	77th Street Division
June 1999	77th Street Division
November 1998	77th Street Division
May 1998	77th Street Division
November 1997	77th Street Division
May 1997	77th Street Division
November 1996	77th Street Division
May 1996	77th Street Division
November 1995	Central Traffic Women
May 1995	Rampart Division
November 1994	Rampart Division
May 1994	Rampart Division
November 1993	Rampart Division
April 1993	Rampart Division
October 1992	Southeast Division
March 1992	Metro Division
October 1991	DARE Division
March 1991	Rampart Division
October 1990	Rampart Division
March 1990	Rampart Division
March 1989	Hollenbeck Division
March 1988	77th Street Division
March 1987	W. Valley/N. Hwyd.
April 1986	West Valley Division
October 1985	West Valley Division

LAPD #1 Two-Man Team Wins National Pistol Championship; Diaz Shines Again

by Helen Papietro

LAPD #1 Police Pistol Team wrapped up the season with a trip to Jackson, MS, in late September, for the Nationals. Hundreds of top shooters from around the world attended, and the camaraderie and sportsmanship exhibited were stellar. As usual, LAPD represented well—after six days of competition, awards were won and history was made.

Two years ago, **Stefanie Diaz** made history when she became the first woman to be part of a four-person National Championship team. This year, with two of our heavy-hitters side-lines, she became the first woman to be part of a two-person team doing the same. Stefanie and **John Pride** teamed to win the semi-automatic handgun event. Stefanie also went on to take top woman honors for her individual revolver and semi-auto scores, shooting a record 1483 with her semi-auto. She is a true prodigy and even better is always willing to help her fellow shooters become better.

Other great individual performances were by **Don Tsunawaki** (who won the stock semi-auto match), **Bob Barnes** (winning the service pistol aggregate) and **Pride** (taking fourth overall in the semi-auto category). **Rich Rinker** had a great showing with the



LAPD 4-person revolver team took third place at the NRA Police National Championships.

shotgun—547 points out of a possible 550—the best for the team.

In the four-person team revolver event, **Lou Salseda, Rick Bennett, Tsunawaki** and **Barnes** took third place behind a U.S. Border Patrol team that also won the Master class semi-auto four-person match. Other team members had some good scores as well. Pairing up as two-person teams, **Dale Hickerson** and **Rinker** came in third in the Classified semi-auto category and **Brian Owen** and **Helen Papietro** took third in the Expert

semi-auto category.

I'd like to invite all interested new shooters to get involved in Police Pistol Competition. Until recently, competitors shooting bull-barreled revolvers dominated the sport. With the promi-

nence of semi-autos, the sport is evolving. The NRA has begun separating revolver and auto shooters and providing separate classifications. That means if you want to come out as a new shooter with your auto, you don't have to compete with the revolvers.

NRA 2003 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year **Gary Helm** (Shelby County, TN) recently credited PPC with saving his life. Patrolman Helm has been

involved in two lethal force incidents and believes the skills he hones in competition saved his life. All of us who compete will agree with him.

This is a sport that's not only enjoyable but also invaluable to your livelihood. Anyone interested in competing is invited to get in touch with me (at Newton FES) or any other team member you know. We'll help get you started.

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Friday, December 12, 2003

9:00 AM - Golf Check-in
10:00 AM - Putting Contest
11:00 AM - Shot-Gun Start
6:00 PM - Dinner & Awards

Price Per Person - \$110.00
*Late Fee after Nov. 12, 2003
\$140.00
Dinner Only - \$30.00

Reservations - Contact Joe Myers - 818-974-9556

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to a local charity

More Sports Beat on next page

SPORTS BEAT

Both Department Roller Hockey Teams Win Gold at California Police & Fire Games

contributed by Frank Kenny

Getting the most for their puck (Ouch! Bad pun!), both LAPD Roller Hockey teams came home with gold medals from the California Police and Fire Games in Sacramento this summer.



Team #1 rolled to an impossible eighth straight finish at the top of their class. Overcoming loss of goaltender **Jason Schwab** (broken ankle), **Russ Carr** stepped up and turned a gutsy performance to shut down the opposition. Solid veteran performances, fused with

new blood from **Scott Taylor** and **Konrad Vollmer**, kept LAPD #1 on a winning path for seven straight games, including the 7-2 title game win over the South Bay Knights.

Team #2 was equally impressive in its division. They battled through several

games, getting solid net minding from first-year goalie **Gerry Gil**, to pull off what many considered a string of upsets to earn a spot in the finals. LAPD #2 then poured it on in the final match to claim the gold.

Centurions Paintball Team Takes Gold

by Travis Jones

Competing against 14 teams from across California, the LAPD Centurions Paintball Team brought home a gold medal on September 30 from a tournament hosted by Team X (California Department of Corrections) and the American Police and Fire Paintball Association (APFPA).

The Centurions came out strong at the all-day tournament held in Bakersfield. Back players **Miguel Lopez** and **Travis Jones** provided superior firepower and did not allow any team to cross the 50-yard line from the break. Lopez's accuracy and speed helped finish several games. **Sam Gong**, playing mid-insert, was again pivotal to the team's and battlefield commander's communications. **Mike Ling**, at right tape, did exactly what he wanted to do—devastating opponents at will and taking ground whenever he wanted it. Newcomer **Ryan Smith** played in his first official tournament, breaking to the 50-yard line every game without being painted. He was also instrumental in capturing the cen-

ter flag (a critical aspect of the game). Following an eight-game qualifying round, the team advanced into the playoffs for another four games. The final match pitted LAPD against Riverside County Sheriffs. They proved a formidable foe and took LAPD to its last player (Smith) to final game, but in the end it was all for naught as the Centurions won the first gold medal ever for an LAPD team in paintball competition.

The Centurions will host the upcoming APFPA Winter Classic on January 24 at SC Village in Corona. Due to the overwhelming response we are looking to form additional department teams to participate in 2004 Police and Fire games action. Another first for law enforcement will be the debut of the Centurions Female Paintball Team. To the best of anyone's knowledge, they will be the first all female law enforcement squad in the country.

Those interested in playing and/or improving their field tactics are encouraged to contact Travis Jones at (909) 809-6347 or Julie Nony at (213) 485-6586.

BAKER TO VEGAS CHALLENGE CUP RELAY RACE Motor Team – Baker to Vegas Motors (Riders) Needed

On April 24th & 25th, the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club will be sponsoring the 20th annual running relay event. The Motor Team supports the event by supplying skilled motorcycle riders who serve as Race Officials.

The function includes enforcement of Race Rules & Regulations related to race and traffic safety. Motorcycles are required to have 4-way flashers, with Family Radio Service (FRS) 2-way radio capability (a \$50 per diem covers the general FRS cost... FRS is simple to obtain). Licensed Amateur Radios are a real plus.

Those individuals, both sworn and non-sworn, who would like to assist in covering Motor Team assignments for the event are encouraged to contact us for further details on equipment and assignments available, plus per diem provision.

Motor Team Coordinator
Gary Krystof (LAPD Reserve) (818) 366-9431
motorteam@earthlink.net

Motor Team - Supervisor Arizona/Nevada Area
Dick Studdard (LAPD Retired) (928) 776-9172
rsazwing@aol.com

Los Angeles Police Golf Association Annual Year End Tournament

Friday, December 12, 2003

California Country Club

Come out and join your fellow officers in a golf tournament played at one of Southern California's most prestigious golf courses.

This tournament is one of the best deals in golf. Your fee of just \$95 includes: golf, morning coffee and donuts, refreshments served on the course, dinner and fabulous prizes.

The 2003 tournament will be held at the California Country Club at 1509 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA; (562) 692-0421 or (626) 333-4571.

Check-in time will begin at 6:30 a.m. with the starting time at 8:00 a.m. and the tournament will be a shotgun team scramble. You may sign up as a single, double, triple, or team of four.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Charlie Loust at (562) 862-1260.

KEEP UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST IN LAPD SPORTS.

SPORTS BEAT INFO LINE

(323) 221-5222 ext 800

Whether it's scheduled changes, newly announced events, or scores of recent games, call the Sports Beat Info Line for the latest details. Athletic Director Tony Adler updates the message weekly, or more often, as events warrant.

RETIREMENT NEWS



The Retirement News is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Retirees may submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 1st of the month for the following month's issue date.

Sacramento Area Blue Line Association (SABLA)

by Bernie Remas

Christmas Day, 2003

A merry, merry Christmas, and a happy New Year to all of you out there, from your friends in SABLAland! I know I've said it before, and I'll probably say it again. This is the most happiest and joyous time of the year. All of us take on a special glow. It's probably due to several good reasons and you keep inside you and display to the whole world, and especially us. We need it the most. And thank you for sharing that with all of us, this holiest of holiday seasons!

Good things keep happening here in SABLAland! Happiness is all around us and especially this time of the year!

The annual SABLA Christmas party luncheon is being held this month, and you probably have time to put it on your social calendar. It's on Thursday, December 18, 2003. It's at the Lodge at Del Webb's Sun City in Roseville! It's at 1100 hours.

That gives us plenty of time to visit with the absolute best, retired police officers in the whole world. And we're always in a happy mood this time of year! 'Cause we always kinda "dress up" for this one get-together! Christmas ties are acceptable wear!

There's an open bar, so bring money for those things. This is a chance to celebrate the season, mix with all of us, and enjoy one of the best buffets around. There

may be some gifts from Santa for everyone too! Call **Hoy Key** at (916) 771-9206 for your reservation. He'll give you all the details!

Remember I told you about **Bob & Ferna Keel** going on Carnival's Elation for a cruise down Mexico way and through the Panama Canal! Well they're back and Bob said that it is still a great cruise, and that the canal looks pretty much the same. That was their third trip through the Panama Canal! When something is good, keep it goin'!

A big surprise at our October luncheon was seeing **Roy Kerton** and his wife, **LaDonna**! Roy has still got a ways to go, but considering everything that a stroke will do to you, he was lookin' good! He wanted everyone to know how much he appreciated the phone calls, letters and cards that he received from all of you! It helped his recovery immensely!

Another surprise guest at this same luncheon was seeing **Jim Hardin** enjoying himself. Jim lives in SoCal and stated that he has a new grandson in nearby El Dorado Hills. So he was here for that occasion and stopped in to see everybody in SABLA country!

For October we had an entertaining and interesting speaker for the luncheon—**Larry Bowler**. Now I know you've heard that name before, especially if you're from the NoCal area. Larry did 30 years with the Sacramento County Sheriff's office. After his retirement he successfully was elected to the California Assembly from the Elk Grove area of Sacramento County.

Why Larry even "took on" Willie Brown who then was the Speaker of the Assembly. Larry was then "put in his place" when Willie assigned him a closet for Larry's office! Funny story! You should have been there to hear it.

Larry did six years in the Assembly, out due to term limits, and now has a new hobby—railroad motor cars! He has bought one of his own, refurbished it, and is frequently looking for any railroad track to run it on. There are four clubs in California, and the members all have these retired railroad motor cars. There is a lot of coordination between the railroad and car owners like Larry. They look for tracks that are not routinely used by the railroad, and that are usable. Great story and sounds like great fun.



SABLA Chair Carl Kuehn (left) and Larry Bowler (right).

Not having fun was **SABLAMAN L. C. Browne**. Now L. C. doesn't get to our luncheons very often, but he pays his dues. He does. L. C. has been teaching school in the Elk Grove area since retiring to this area, and that does prevent him from making the luncheons.

Like most exLAPDers, as soon as the people you're working for find out you're an ex-blue-suit, they'll soon be asking you to take on more responsibility. L. C. has done just that and is a vice principal. Guess who's in charge of discipline? Right! The VP! L. C.! One day in October, a student brought a shotgun to school. Guess who got shot in the right ankle resolving the situation and taking the gun in custody? L. C.

L. C. said "As Forrest Gump once said, 'I felt the sting'!" A speedy recovery has occurred. So another exLAPDer does good. In this case, God bless you, L. C. You're our hero. No one was hurt or injured but you! You're still working "to protect and to serve" and you do it well!

Lots of females at our October luncheon. With them coming, it sure does brighten up a rather dull bunch of guys sittin' around! We saw **Joe & Alice**

Sandoval sitting with **Jim Hardin** and **Richard Navarez**. At the head table were **Hoy Key** and **Wilma Laycock** with our Prez **Carl Kuehn** and wife **Ellie**. **Bill** and **Muriel McMonagle** were sitting with me and telling me about a cruise they are going on after the first of 2004. With Muriel's failing eyesight, they will be able to go with the help of a support group. Go get 'em you two!

Hoy Key, our illustrious Sec./Treasurer, states that many of you longtime SABLA members have not paid up your dues! Shame! Shame! Only \$15 for the whole year? C'mon. You're missing out on the continuing excerpts from the



Rex and La Donna Kerton.

unpublished book of **John Powers**! The former Cmdr. Powers has left us, but his text was left with Hoy to publish in the monthly SABLA newsletter! Send your \$15 to Hoy at 5057 Dreamgarden Loop, Roseville, CA 95747. Or a check made out to SABLA.

Back to the October luncheon, 'cause there were some exLAPD people you missed. **Dick King** from Lodi was back in again to see everyone. Now that the wine harvest is over at their place in Lodi, **Betty** and he will be returning to the warmth of their Del Webb Palm Desert home. **Chuck Ward** and **Chuck Crawford** were sitting together. You know! Ex-motor officers! **Bill Wilhelm** was nearby, but Bill had a different story. He's an Airstream trailer owner and told me about a three-week trip they took to Mazatlan, Mexico. He was one in a 21 trailer caravan. They all stayed together for stops at night and in the morning they would release two trailers

at a time so as to not tie up the roadway. Neat planning, si?? They had a great time!

Well, that's what retirement is about, right? **Charlie Long** and **Chuck Blogin** were back from Del Webb's Roseville! **Charlie Long** still needs to stay on my "see food" diet. Eat all the food you can see! But he's coming along. Good to see you two. Where were you?? **Ray**

Lauritzen was there too! But where were you?

Bob Devin, **Tony Baldassano**, **Al Ferrone**, **Ken Carlsted** and **Jim Byrd** were there. They're all lookin' good!

continued on page 52

More Retirement News on next page



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RETIREMENT NEWS

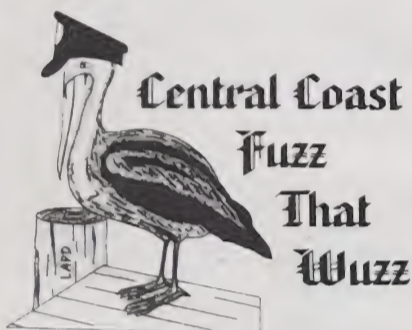
Valley Retired Blues

by Clinton O. Erickson

Our next meeting will be on December 17, 2003, at "The Lamplighter" restaurant located on the corner of DeSoto Ave. and Nordhoff St. We meet every month on the third Wednesday in the bar/lounge area of the restaurant. There is no set start time, so you may arrive anytime after 10:30 a.m. Coffee is available until orders are taken. All LAPD officers, wives/friends (active or retired) are welcome to attend. We have no membership dues and time is spent renewing friendships and remi-

niscing.

We had 29 attending the October 15 luncheon. The following attended: **Charlie** (6006) and **Barbara Albright**, **Bob Baker** (7839), **Sal Dallegas** (22173), **Fred Day** (5474), **Betty Carr** (3296), **Ted Debs** (6808), **Hilliard (Curly) Elliott** (4534), **Ray Elmer** (5607), **Clinton Erickson** (5608), **John W. Grogan** (11852), **Mike Jauregui** (12143), **Dean Knouse** (6057), **Tom Lindholm** (4734), **Paul Nicholas** (4047), **Jake Orbus** (5407), **Robert L. Peterson** (16449), **Dale Rickards** (3593), **Duane (Whitey) Ryburn**



by Dave Aikins

As you know, last October and November we suffered through severe firestorms throughout the southern part of the state of California. The vast

acreage of forest land lost, the 3,500 homes destroyed, and 22 people killed was unbelievable. We owe a great deal to the brave firefighters who struggled day and night to bring the raging fires under control. As usual, in addition to the brave ground crews, the perseverance and professionalism of the helicopter and fixed wing air crews, who always labor under very hazardous conditions was impressive. The mutual aid that comes in from the various agencies throughout the state and elsewhere is something to behold. It's heartening to see responding fire units from Newport Beach, Hawthorne, Santa Monica, Oxnard, and Beverly Hills working up in the Santa Paula mountain area as well as fire agencies from Santa Barbara, San

(3981), **Arnie Sauro** (6104), **J. R. Schiller** (10992), **Guy Schlotzhauer** (2804), **Phil Siegal** (6618), **Wally Tallent** (4396), **Mel Tousseau** (3270), **Earl Wells** (6297), **Hal Yarnel** (3662), **Dick Young** (10585), and **Clem Zumel** (4495).

Charlie and Barbara Albright, Sal Dallegas were first time attendees. Charlie and Barbara from Provo, Utah, were visiting in the valley and had also attended the Inland Empire lunch the previous week. Sal Dallegas recently retired and hopes to attend future lunches. Betty Carr's last time to attend was in 1999. There is room for additional 15-20 attendees, so mark your calendars and plan to attend. If you need more information, please contact me at the numbers listed below.

I know there are a lot of you that worked in the valley and live in this area

and hope you will come and join your old friends for a great bull session. Call me at (818) 340-2430 or e-mail at clintsr@pacbell.net if you want or have information of interest for us at the Lamplighters.

If any of you become aware of the passing of officers you have worked with, let me know so I can pass the information to my e-mail list of retired valley officers.

Our meeting information and attendees are on www.larfpa.com. The names appear on the Web site about a month prior to seeing them in the *Blue Line* column.

Hope to see some more new faces at the next meeting in December, and if you don't remember the date, remember it is always the third Wednesday of each month.

SABLA continued from page 51

How about you??

George Puddy I'm told is recovering from a stroke. I incorrectly reported that he had a heart attack a few months back.

Next luncheon is our December Christmas luncheon, and read all about it above in this article. Then on January 8, 2004, it's back at "Friends Restaurant" with an open menu! Choose your own. It's at Hwy. 50 and Zinfandel, the north side of Hwy. 50, east of downtown Sacramento, 1130 hours. Bring \$15 for dues! And money for lunch! Your one chance of the month, every month, to mix with the absolute best retired police officers in the whole wide world!

In closing, the sad part of this reporting is to tell you about the loss of another long-time SABLA member, **Bob Tucker**. Bob began his LAPD career on December 17, 1945 and retired December 31, 1965. He followed his Dad, who had joined the LAPD in 1929! But that is getting ahead of his life's history.

Bob was a native Angeleno, born there in 1924. When WWII came along,

Bob joined the U.S. Navy in March, 1943, and saw combat in the Philippines and Okinawa.

After joining LAPD, he worked with his DAD in the "old" Traffic Division. Bob became a Motor Officer and worked Hollywood area for several years. That was like "home" for Bob as he had been a child actor and performer for many years. Not many of us knew about that part of his life. After joining LAPD, he maintained personal contact with many of Hollywood's brightest stars! After retirement, he moved to Nevada City in NoCal and in 1967 became a charter member of the new South Lake Tahoe P.D. Eventually he got to ride a "motor," once again. He retired again in 1976 and was living in Napa when he became a favorite and dedicated member of SABLA! I remember him well. He sold LAPD memorabilia of all kinds to all of us and many others. His family of **Larry, Teri, Robin and Kelly** loved him very much. We did too.

Be good to each other out there. We need and love each and every one of you!

Retirement Corner

Rank	Name	Serial No.	Last Assigned to	No. of Years
DET-II	Eric E. Lindquist	15979	Narcotics	33
DET-II	Phillip T. Thomas	17677	Rampart	31
DET-III	Joseph J. Pau	21774	Detective Support Div.	28

3 of L.A.'s finest for a total of 92 yrs of service.

Dates to Remember

DECEMBER			Event Time/ Social	Meal
December 5	Prescott Area Blue Line Christmas Party		1800	
December 10	Roland L'Heureux David Szabo Kenneth DeBie		1100	
December 14	L.A. Retired Fire & Police Christmas Party		1100	
December 17	Valley Retired Blues		1030	
December 18	Central Coast Fuzz Christmas Party @ Madonna Inn			
December 18	S.A.B.L.A. Christmas Luncheon		1100	
JANUARY				
January 8	S.A.B.L.A.		1130	
January 14	Inland Blue Line		1100	1200
January 21	Valley Retired Blues		1030	
January 22	Richard James		1730	1830
January 24	Timothy Williams		1800	1900

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with your new address!

Inland Blue Line

by Loyd H. Yandle

The End of an Era

Twenty-one years is a long time, but seems so short when you are having fun. That gives a pretty fair description of my association with the Inland Blue Line these past 21 years. Now there comes a time in one's life when you have to realize you're not as young as you used to be, and you figure it is about time to throw in the towel.

My wife, Beverly, and I started this club in January of 1983. We wanted to do something for all the retirees in the surrounding area. We sent out 200 letters to all retirees within a 50-mile radius. We got 57 responses. After the first luncheon, we knew we were off the ground, and it ballooned from there to over 300 members within two years, coming from a radius of 300 miles. It was a great feeling to see old friends meet for the first time in some 20 years. Comments like, "What happened to your hair?" "You have put on a little weight." It was a good thing I had nametags made up, because some you could recognize and some you couldn't in a hundred years. But it was fun and we loved it.

Most of you read my articles when my wife Beverly was in the hospital for the year following her heart bypass, which she did not need, but that is a whole other story. I am writing a book and when it comes out, it will shock the whole medical profession and some retirees. But it was hard doing everything myself after Beverly passed away.

Wilma Hyden (wife of deceased **Glen Hyden**, West Valley Detective Bureau) was a help to me by checking all of you in at the front door on luncheon days for the past 16 years. I cannot thank her enough. Then when Beverly passed away, **Dora** and **Lloyd Tucker** stepped in and helped Wilma at the door. Then two years ago when Dora was out for medical problems, I met a wife of a deceased Highway Patrolman (who incidentally helped me catch a couple of bad guys when he was resident trooper in Big Bear). She helped all of us at the door. She was that cute redhead in case

you wondered just who she was. I cannot thank all of these people enough for all the help.

But that is only the tip of the iceberg. I spent two weeks typing and mailing out notices, keeping books on who paid dues and who didn't, arranging for guest speakers, making badges and ordering 500 at a time, buying stamps and paper and envelopes to mail to members. It all takes time. There was a lot of work involved, but I loved it. Else why did I keep it up so long? But now as I get older, I cannot keep up the pace like I did 20 years ago.

I published help wanted ads in *The Thin Blue Line* asking for someone to jump in to a self-made, going club, but got no takers. I asked for someone to take over, in several of my articles, but got no takers. So it took me a year of pondering, and the fact that I had promised Beverly I would keep the club going, but I did not realize that the years roll by so fast and with me pushing 86 years. I woke up one morning and found that my getup and go had just got up and went. I took one look in the mirror and said it is time to go, you old f—, you're not a kid anymore. Get out while you can still walk. So I told a few what I was going to do and each of them said, no one can blame you, you have kept us together for 21 years and now it is time to put you out to pasture. Well, now comes the hard part. January 14, 2004 will be the end of the Inland Blue Line Retired Officers Club. It will be at the Anchor restaurant, 2524 E. Florida Ave., in the big city of Hemet. I had hoped that all those members could make it a point to be there to maybe see some of their old buddies for the last time. The tariff will still be \$12 per person. Those of you who are not Inland Blue Line members are welcome to come to this last luncheon too. I am sure you will enjoy seeing some of your old partners and friends. You can call me at my home, (909) 925-4491, and if you still live at the same address as in the retirement book, I will send you a flyer, the same as I send all the members.

We started out charging \$5 per year dues. It worked fine for about five years,

then some of the members started falling behind and it was no fair to those that paid. I was the bad guy and had to dun them to pay up. I was putting out of my pocket to keep the club going. Then they voted to raise the dues to \$10 per year. It worked out I did not have to pay out of my pocket, but there were still some that did not pay, some of the members chose not to belong, because of the raise in dues, but that was okay. We lost 76 members by E.O.W. over the 21 years. Some of the spouses still came. They enjoyed visiting with old friends.

I want to thank all those of you that sent me cards and letters over the years. Some made me feel good. They wrote me that they never missed reading my article. When I did not write any articles for about three months, I must have got 70 letters from all over the United States, from retirees asking me to start writing again for the Inland Blue Line. Well I understand now *The Thin Blue Line* has a new editor and they tell me he is just great.

The October luncheon was great. We had 90 retirees there, and again I can say they come from all over. **Charles Albright**, an old classmate of mine, came all the way from Provo, Utah, just to see all of his old buddies. Chuck called me and said he couldn't believe how many of the retirees he knew and he saw some that he had heard were E.O.W. Well they weren't, at least he didn't think so. Course we had to slap some of them to wake them up to make sure they were alive. I had arranged for a speaker at the last minute and it was pretty dry stuff. I guess it was the worst speaker we have ever had, because from 90 retirees that we had at the start of the lecture, we only had 22 left at the end.

Floyd Phillips and his wife, **Lydia**,

attended. Floyd broke his back and it is hard for him to get around, but it sure was good to see him again. **Ted Combs**, one of my instructors going through the Academy, was present. Ted has been a member for 15 years, but is still working (he is a chicken inspector). So if you buy a chicken, look for Ted's stamp of approval. Forgot to ask him where he put the stamp. Sure good to see him back.

George Surber brought his daughter. George is considered legally blind and so he has to depend on friends and relatives to get him from point "A" to point "B". But George keeps on going.

Just heard **Robert O. Tucker** had passed away. He sure was a great guy. We used to work together off the job. We did carpenter work. Boy Bob could swing a mean hammer. He was a working fool. Bob had Alzheimer's and was in a rest home in Nevada City. I know how old I am getting when I read about all these young retirees are E.O.W.

How about all these fires burning up the country? I know some of the LAPD retirees live in these areas that burned, and I hope they are okay. I have been glued to the TV for a week.

Well that is about it. I have enjoyed writing for the Inland Blue Line, and I appreciate all the letters telling me that you enjoyed my articles. But I guess all good things come to an end, so I will be signing off. This is your Inland Blue Line news reporter, going out to pasture, so just remember, be careful, buckle up. It is a jungle out there.

(Editors note:

The Board of Directors wishes to thank Loyd Yandle for his many years of dedicated service and regular reporting of the Inland Blue Line members and their activities. Good luck.)

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Los Angeles City Attorney's Office Announces a

Retirement Party

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Thursday, January 22, 2004

Cocktails @ 5:30 PM

Dinner @ 6:30 PM

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\$30.00 per person

Dinner, Tax, Tip, Gift

Contact for Tickets

Virginia Kwong ~City Atty~ 818-374-6823

Gloria Escobedo ~City Atty~ 213-978-7057

Joe Myers ~LAPD~ 818-974-9556

Old Blue Running Team

by Mike McKean

The monthly qualifying runs have begun. They are held the first Sunday of each month, with the exception of the November run, which was held November 9th. The dates for the remaining runs are: December 7, January 4, February 1, March 7, and April 4.

Our first run, held October 5 at the Griffith Park Crystal Springs Ranger station, was attended by runners **John Marnell**, **Mel Sandvig**, **Jim O'Connor**, **Phil Booth**, **Bruce Hoover**, **Gene Petersen**, **Jay Hernandez**, **Keith Allen**, and **Mike Arroyo**. Support personnel were **George Beck**, **Rudy DeLeon**, **Bob Espinosa**, **Diane Harber**, **Mike McKean**, and **Terry Wonders**.

Chuck and **Lynne McTaggart** were unable to attend the first run as they were in Victoria, British Columbia, participating in the Victoria Marathon. **Chuck** participated in the half marathon finishing in 1 hour, 37 minutes, and 30 seconds, good enough for second in his

age group, while **Lynne**, being much younger, ran the marathon in 4 hours, 1 minute, finishing 4th in her age group.

We are still looking for new runners and support personnel for the team. Anyone interested contact Co-Captains **Chuck** or **Mel** or show up at the next run at 8:00 a.m., Sunday, December 7, 2003. New personnel are treated to a free breakfast.

The Las Vegas Hilton will again be the host hotel. We will have a hospitality room. The dates of the race are April 24-25, 2004. Our team number is 43. We will attempt to get a block of rooms close together so let us know if you intend to stay at the Hilton. The Hilton is a great place to stay. It is off the main drag and has good restaurants.

Your correspondent missed the last newsletter due to a mechanical problem. My motor home broke down near Denver and spent a few extra days near Denver, Colorado, and was unable to get my laptop plugged in.

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B00-02

CATALINA BEACH COTTAGE

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A-12

LAKE TAHOE GETAWAY

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B03-01

LAKE ARROWHEAD - GATED NORTH SHORE ROAD

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A00-01

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F-17

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L01-05

BIG BEAR RENTAL

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G00-02

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E03-04

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This 1+1 or 2+2 lets you taste & feel the "Aloha Spirit." The safe private sandy cove beckons the snorkeler (beg. or adv.). Pool, spa & BBQ's are in the Hawaiian garden. Dine on either lanai, outside your bedroom or living room while you watch the whales or the sunset between Lanai & Molokai. La Haina is 7 miles. (TV, VCR, DVD, W & D). \$110-\$160/ night. O'Lear (818) 831-0844 (email, bookemdano@inreach.com).

G02-03

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GREAT GET-AWAY MISSION BAY CONDO

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A-8

WINTER / SUMMER BIG BEAR RENTAL

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K00-02

BEACHFRONT CONDO MAUI

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A-5

MEXICO RESORT RENTALS 50 - 70% DISCOUNT

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F03-05

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D-11

For Sale - Misc.

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K03-01

Vehicles for Sale

2000 MUSTANG GT

White with dark gray interior, automatic, only 27,000 miles. Outstanding condition. Cobra chrome rims. Saleen wing. Many billet pieces. Also, over \$2,000 in after market parts not installed. Death forces sale. \$19,000 OBO. Retired LAPD 661-943-9334.

L03-01

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD

Call Mark Deitch & Associates, Inc. at 818-558-1010

ADVERTISING POLICY

Advertising, classified and display, is subject to the approval of the Editor, the Los Angeles Police Protective League Board of Directors, and/or the Blue Line Review Committee.

Display Ads

The deadline is always the 6th of the month prior to publication. (For example, March 6th is the deadline for the April issue.) For ad rates, ad sizes, and photograph line screen information, please telephone Mark Deitch & Associates, Inc. at (818) 558-1010.

Classified Ads

Classified advertisers must be members of the LAPPL, and advertising may be for sale or rental of personal items ONLY. All new ads or ad changes should be typed or legibly handwritten

and submitted on or before the deadline date (the 6th of the month prior to issue, i.e.: March 6th is the deadline for the April issue) in the attention of Mark Deitch, The Thin Blue Line, 4444 Riverside Drive, Suite 202, Burbank, CA 91505. Ads or ad changes will not be taken over the phone. Please include a check or money order payable to The Thin Blue Line and a note indicating the number of months you wish your ad to be published. Rates for members of the LAPPL are \$10 per month for every 35 words.

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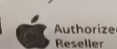
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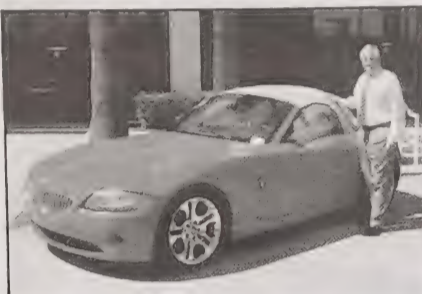
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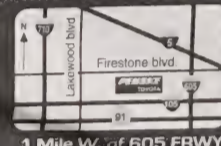
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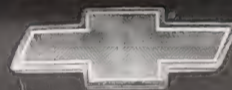
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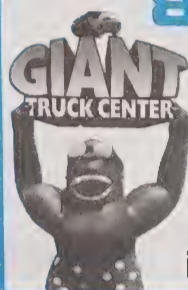
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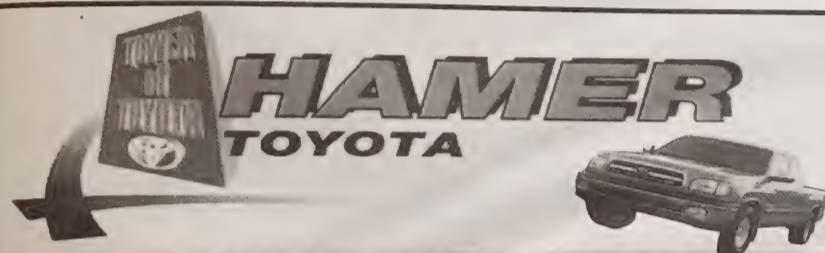
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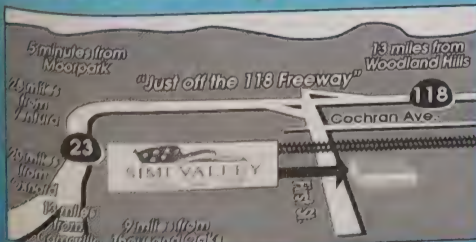
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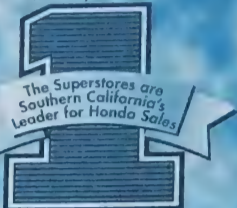
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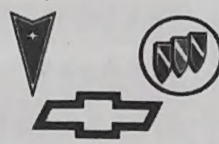
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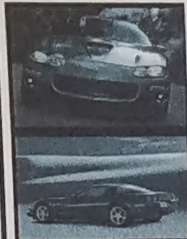
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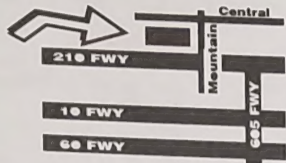
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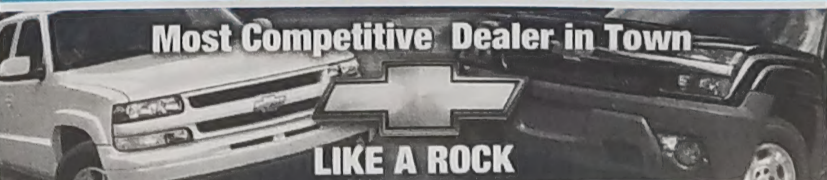
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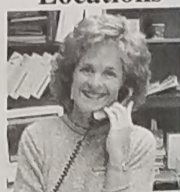
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